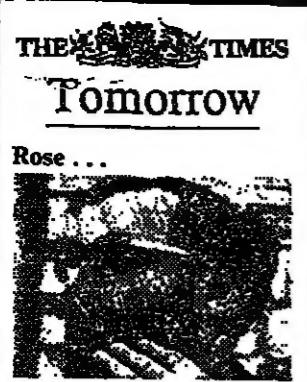


WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 28 1983

20p

No 61,649



Rose ...
... and Crown
Tim Heald reviews
Elizabeth R, by Elizabeth Longford
Tweedy desperado
Sir John Hoskyns,
scourge of the political Establishment
Travelling ...
Business travel takes off again; a special report
... in Europe
How Britain's football clubs fared in Europe

22 held in cancer charity raid

The police were questioning 22 people after raids by the Fraud Squad in London and Peterborough in connection with the activities of the charity Children with Cancer. The inquiry began after *Sunday Times* allegations that a businessman was making £50 from each pound raised. The police have asked for people who have had dealings with the organization to contact them.

Argentine drive for UN support

Argentina launched a campaign at the UN for European support for the junta's Falklands policy with an appeal to Britain's allies to persuade her to discontinue the "Fortress Falklands" policy.

Page 6

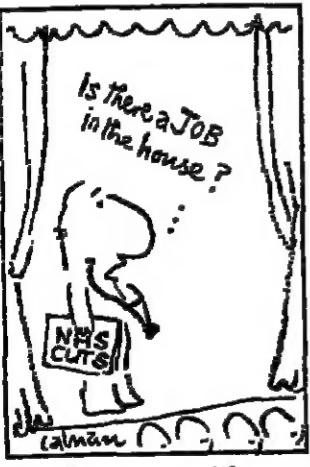
Betjeman stable

Sir John Betjeman remained on the danger list at Brompton Hospital, London, but his condition was said to be stable. He had a heart attack on Monday.

IRA arrests

Two more of the prisoners who escaped from the Maze prison were recaptured after the security forces surrounded a house near Newcastle, Co Down.

Search goes on, page 2



£1.6m yearling

A European record price of £1,627,500 was paid by a Robert Sangster syndicate for a Hello Gorgeous yearling colt at Newmarket. Earlier report, page 26

Football results

Barnsley 3, Grimsby Town 1; Fulham 2, Middlesbrough 1; Oldham Athletic 0, Charlton Athletic 0; Bolton Wanderers 0, Burnley 0; Bournemouth 0, Bristol Rovers 1; Hull City 1, Wimbledon 0; Newport County 1, Preston North End 1; Plymouth Argyle 4, Scunthorpe United 0; Sheffield United 2, Bradford City 0; Aldershot 2, Swindon Town 1; Blackpool 2, Mansfield Town 0; Bristol City 3, Reading 1; Chesterfield 0, Hereford United 2, Darlington 1, Bury 2; Doncaster Rovers 2, York City 2; Halifax Town 2, Northampton Town 2; Hartlepool United 0.

Leader page 13
Letters: On banking crisis from Sir William Lithgow; pensions, from Mr N. Vinsom and Mr P. Chapman; Leading articles: Reagan and disarmament; the Maze breakout; America's Cup; Features, pages ...

Michael Ivins on ending the unions' political leviathans; how Poland's military leaders are turning into puppets; Free health without tears; Spectrum: The Cynical Seventies; Wednesday Page: A Python sheds his skin; Special Report, pages 15, 16 and 17, on regional airports; Obituary, page 14; Professor R. H. Thomas, Tino Ross

Home News 2-4 Law Report 14; Overseas 4-6 Rightly 14; Appls 14, 15 Property 29; Arts 15, 16 Sale Room 2; Bridge 14 Science 14; Business 19-22 Sport 23-26; Court 14 TV & Radio 31; Crossword 32 Theatres etc 31; Diary 12 Weather 34; Events 32 Wills 14

Miners call special conference to fight pit closures

By Paul Roudedge, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday took the first step towards a strike this winter by making official a strike by militant Scottish miners and calling a special conference next month to fight pit closures.

They also submitted a claim for "substantial" wage increases designed to bring the value of their pay back up to levels reached after their last big confrontation with the Government in 1974.

No clear figures were put on the demand, but officials of the National Coal Board calculated that it could add at least 20 per cent to the industry's wage bill.

After being given an unusually detailed submission, the board yesterday put off making an offer to the union until Friday, when the mineworkers are likely to be offered rises in line with the Cabinet's 3 per cent ceiling on settlement in the public sector.

But the impetus is now building up over jobs rather than pay. The executive committee of the National Union of Minewor-

kers voted unanimously to support the two-week-old strike by pitmen at Monktonhall colliery near Edinburgh and to call a special delegate conference on the future of the industry, in London on October 21.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, said that the conference would "determine the union's position" on pit closures, and a number of options would be considered. He declined to say what they might be, but a national overtime ban is understood to be an item on the agenda. About 10 per cent of all shifts worked in the industry are done in overtime.

The fight to maintain living standards is paramount, but at the same time so is the fight to maintain jobs and pits because if we do not have jobs and pits there is little point in fighting for wage increases", he said.

About 100 miners from Monktonhall pit lobbied yesterday's executive meeting, and they were told by Mr Michael McGahey, president of the NUM, in

Scotland, that the miners would take their battle "to the labour and trade union movement". He appealed: "Keep your unity. Staff firm behind your union".

It is unprecedented for the NUM to make official a strike at one colliery, but the miners are reeling under a spate of shutdowns that has evidently made their leaders decide that the time has come to call a halt. There are 16,000 fewer pitmen in the industry than a year ago, and at least 16 collieries have closed or are scheduled to close by the end of the 1983-84 financial year.

It was announced yesterday that Herrington Burn colliery near Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, is almost certain to close.

The board's more immediate concern is to conclude a quick settlement on the miners' claim for a new wage deal operative from November 1. Present earnings in the industry (including output bonuses) range from £148.27 a week on the surface to £178.93 at the coalface.

The board yesterday "just listened" to the miners' case, which recalled the old days of detailed and logically-argued submissions rather than the heady "give us the money" demands of the 1970s.

After a half-hour discussion Mr James Cowan, board member for industrial relations, asked for time to consider the mass of statistics and promised to make an offer on Friday morning.

Vauxhall ballot, page 2

MINERS' PAY

Claim	Settlement	Weekly average wages	National average weekly wage*
'78	5%	£101.76	£83.00
'79	5%	£113.70	£111.70
'80	24%	£140.20	£121.90
'81	31%	£156.36	£133.80
'82	substantial due Nov 1	£166.07	£143.00 (est)

*at April 1

More Cunard work goes abroad

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Cunard infuriated Britain's work-starved shipyards again yesterday by taking yet another passenger ship contract abroad.

Just a week after agreeing to take the Queen Elizabeth 2 to Germany for a £4.5m winter refit, the line confirmed that the 25,000-ton Visafjord is to have a £3m overhaul in Malta, and her sister the Sagafjord in San Francisco.

Malta Dry Docks is the yard which caused a furor earlier in the year by winning a £3m contract for post-Falklands rent of the 17,000-ton Cunard Countess after British yards said they could not do it in time.

And a year ago Cunard proposed to build a replacement for the container-ship Atlantic Conveyor, stuck in the Falklands, in South Korea - an order eventually placed at Swan Hunter's yard on the Tyne after a £15m grant from the Government.

The Visafjord is one of two cruise ships bought by Cunard from Norwegian America Line for £46m in May, and Cunard said last night that she was being dry-docked in Malta because that was where the Norwegian line had planned to refit her and were delivering her.

The Sagafjord, 24,000 tons, will be dry-docked in San Francisco about the same time for exactly the same reason, Cunard added.

Lebanese state radio and television, quoting an army communiqué, said that the Government, as well as Christian, Druze and Muslim militias, had chosen representatives for the ceasefire supervisory committee.

But sources close to Anpal, the Shia Muslim militia, said that the committee had failed to meet yesterday, because its members could not agree where to meet.

The delay is likely to slow the dispatch of "impartial observers", possibly to include members of the United Nations truce supervision organization, into the mountain areas south and east of Beirut.

Such a delay could lead to further charges that the combatants are using the lull in the fighting to reinforce and fortify their positions.

Early yesterday, the Lebanese Army charged that the Druze militia was using the ceasefire to improve their mountain positions.

The Countess refitted in Malta if British yards could not meet the line's essential deadlines.

The Visafjord, built in Britain in 1973, and the Sagafjord, built in France in 1965, bring Cunard's cruise fleet to five - the QE2, Princess, Countess, Vista and Sagafjord.

The two ships were bought to extend Cunard's interest in cruising without adding new tonnage to a market already in danger of over-capacity. The company said in May that it expected to make record profits from cruising this year.

Its policy of buying and repairing cheaply is in sharp contrast to P & O, for whom Cunard's parent, Trafalgar House, made a recent takeover bid. P & O is spending £100m on a new cruise ship to be named the Royal Princess by the Princess of Wales, in Finland.

Placing the Visafjord order in Malta was "the final nail in the

flag transfer fears, back page

Continued on back page, col 7

Mr Murray: "Bleeding us to death."

Mr Murray: "Bleeding us to death."

her remarks with: "When I took over in Britain ... stuck to her iron line. 'We do not want peace at any price, but peace with freedom and justice', she said.

Asked about the differences between herself and Mr Trudeau at the Williamsburg summit, she demanded to know if reporters expected politicians to sit around like snail puddings. But she was nice and motherly with a Korean reporter who had difficulty with his English.

Mrs Thatcher is enjoying Canada, and Canadians are enjoying her. They wanted to see the amazing Iron Lady and that is what she is giving them.

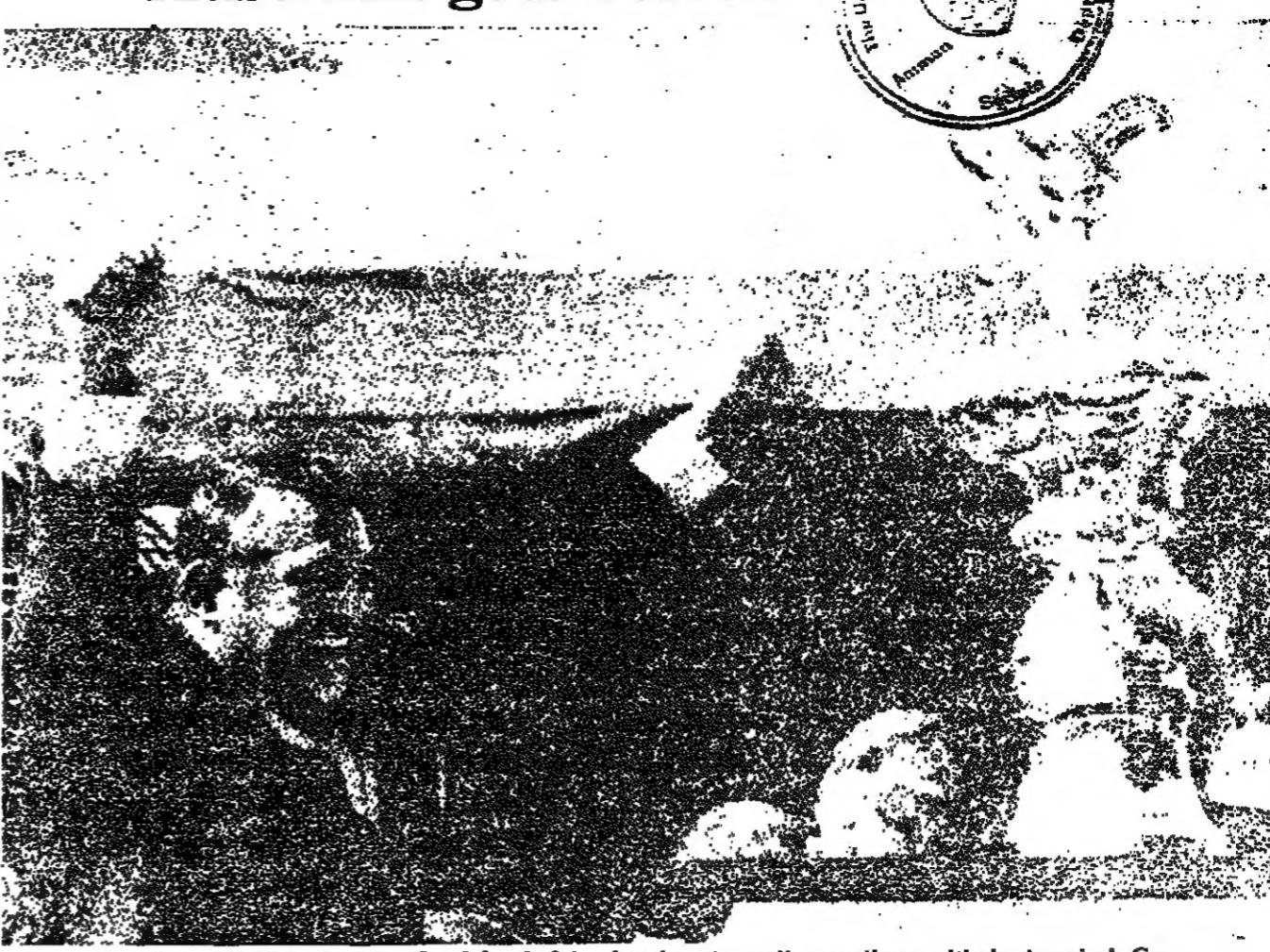
Her speech to Parliament was a triumph and her vigorous confrontationist style

delighted a banquet audience in Toronto.

After one burst of applause she glanced at Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, who was next to her, and said: "I am doing well with this audience, Pierre".

But Mrs Thatcher, prefacing

Australia gets bolt as well as cup



Cup glory: A jubilant Mr Alan Bond, head of the victorious Australian syndicate, with the America's Cup.

Reagan plea for IMF funding

From Frances Williams and Bailey Morris, Washington

President Reagan strongly attacked the United States Congress yesterday, warning of a global "economic nightmare" if warring Republicans and Democrats are unable to resolve their differences and approve \$8.5 billion in new funds for the International Monetary Fund.

In a hard-hitting address opening the formal sessions of the IMF's joint annual meeting with the World Bank, Mr Reagan told the world's finance ministers and central bankers that the increase in funds was crucial to the present economic recovery.

"This legislation is not only crucial to the recovery of America's trading partners and to the stability of the entire financial system but it is also necessary to a sustained recovery in the United States", Mr Reagan said in his first public attack against the feuding Congressmen.

Delegates from 150 nations also heard impassioned appeals, from the heads of the IMF and the World Bank, for adequate resources to manage the world's continuing debt crisis.

Much of the focus of the preliminary sessions before the formal opening meeting was on the urgent need for the US Congress to break a deadlock over legislation approving the US contribution.

The presentation came as a surprise. It had been expected that it would take place in two or three days' time in the club premises in New York. Mr Stone mentioned the jury of the International Yacht Racing Union, "for keeping our races honest". That begged the question of what the IYRU might think of Liberty's vain attempt to retain the trophy by changing her ballast and rating for the seventh and final race. The Australians had objected but did not protest.

In giving the bolt to Mr Bond, Mr Stone said that he hoped he would not be keeping it for 132 years, but felt he ought to have it.

The losing helmsman, Mr Dennis Conner, was not present.

The presentation ceremony came as a surprise. It had been expected that it would take place in two or three days' time in the club premises in New York. Mr Stone, putting a brave face on the end of sporting history, said that there was no other country to which the club would rather hand the trophy.

This had been the sixth Australian challenge. Searching for a simile that did not quite match the historic moment on the terrace at the rear of the mansion facing seawards through the beech trees, Mr Stone said he knew how the Australians felt at the US quota increase.

In another development yesterday, Mr Nigel Lawson held his first bilateral meeting as Chancellor with Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, and raised the British Government's strong concern over the Reagan Administration's failure to resolve the unitary tax issue. In response to growing British pressure, the President attempted last week to find a compromise solution to the controversial levy - which taxes multinational companies according to a proportion of their worldwide income rather than their local profits - by saying that a special commission would study the issue.

However, they did not believe that the initial negative reaction for Moscow was its last word on the new US initiative and expressed hope that the Soviet Union might soon produce a serious counter-proposal at the Geneva arms reduction talks.

But they did not expect this to happen until NATO had proved its ability to weather the anti-nuclear demonstrations expected to take place in Western Europe this autumn.

It was partly to defuse anti-nuclear sentiment in Europe that Mr Reagan decided publicly to unveil the new US proposals to reduce intermediate range nuclear (INF) weapons in his speech to the UN General Assembly on Monday.

The officials expressed the view that as a public relations exercise the President's speech had been largely successful. Mr Reagan discussed his new initiative with President Koivisto of Finland during meetings at the White House yesterday.

The main American concession would allow the Soviet Union to keep more INF missiles in Europe than the United States so long as there was "global equality" in the number of warheads. America also agreed to include nuclear-capable medium-range bomber aircraft in the Geneva talks and to reduce the number of Pershing 2 missiles in proportion to the overall number of missiles the United States would eventually deploy.

Mrs Thatcher has demonstrated to Canadians that all they have heard about her is true. In a huge diverse country where political compromise and accommodation are vital, a politician with an unshakable attitude is a cause for wonder.

But Mrs Thatcher, prefacing

Americans put on a brave face

From David Miller, Newport

The 3ft iron bolt which for 132 years has screwed the America's Cup to a table in the New York Yacht Club was presented yesterday to the Perth property and oil millionaire, Mr Alan Bond, head of the victorious Australia II syndicate.

At a ceremony at the Marble House, former home of the Vanderbilt family memorabilia on fashionable Bellevue Avenue here, a crowd of about 200 saw the New York Yacht Club commodore, Mr Robert Stone, and ex-commodore, Mr Bus Mossbacher, hand over the cup to Royal Perth Yacht Club commodore, Mr Peter Dalziel.

In thanking everyone involved in the series, including the elimination races which lasted more than three months, Mr Stone mentioned the jury of the International Yacht Racing Union, "for keeping our races honest". That begged the question of what the IYRU might think of Liberty's vain attempt to retain the trophy by changing her ballast and rating for the seventh and final race. The Astralians had objected but did not protest.

The clearing bank had told the banking commission it would no longer cover the SHK4.1bn overdrawn on Hang Lung's clearing account.

Sir John said it was unacceptable for the Government to allow the bank to fail. The government action was needed and the only satisfactory course was to take over Hang Lung to protect depositors and maintain confidence in Hong Kong's banking system.

The Government would acquire full control of Hang Lung today but Sir John said he hoped the bank would return to private ownership in due course.

Hang Lung is a privately-owned bank not listed on any of Hong Kong's four stock exchanges. It

Junior housemen criticized by GPs after death of 6 patients

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

General practitioners who send patients to the Prince Charles Hospital in Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, where six people have died during the past year shortly after being refused admission or discharged, have claimed that junior housemen appear to be challenging their assessments.

The family doctors want a meeting with senior consultants at the hospital to draw up an agreed medical admissions procedure.

Mid Glamorgan Health Authority has already announced an inquiry into practices at the hospital, where there is often a shortage of medical beds because of the area's high illness rate.

In spite of the authority's claim that the record of the hospital's casualty department is as good as that of any other, Mr Edward Rowlands, Labour MP for Merthyr and Rhymney, has said that there is a "clear and growing concern" over some of the cases it handles.

It emerged yesterday that Mrs Janice James, aged 43, died a few hours after holding a small party to celebrate her discharge from the hospital. She died of heart disease, which her doctors point out, is not uncommon even in apparently fit people.

One GP, Dr Anil Srivastava, made a formal complaint to the hospital after learning that a woman patient, aged 53, had died of a heart complaint at her home although he had asked for her to be admitted.

He said yesterday: "This problem does not occur with surgical cases, who are admitted straight away into the wards. But in medical cases it appears that often junior doctors of limited experience challenge the judgment of experienced family doctors."

Spurned mistress describes killing

A woman sobbed yesterday as she described to a murder trial jury at the Central Criminal Court how she killed her aging millionaire lover with a champagne bottle after he taunted her about her sexuality and said he was rejecting her for a younger mistress.

Mrs Pamela Meggison, aged 61, is accused of murdering Mr Alec Hubbers, aged 79, a furniture company director, with whom she lives at his home in The Bishops Avenue, Hampstead, London.

She discovered that Mr Hubbers had a new, younger mistress, Madame Nicole Arnaud, from Monaco, and had arranged to sell Madame Arnaud his flat at Cap Ferrat in the South of France. Last October, Mr Hubbers took Mrs Meggison back to Cap Ferrat where he told her that he was in love with Madame Arnaud. "He

said he wanted her to take my place, and wanted to get rid of me."

"He said I wasn't as good in bed as she was. It was all horrible. She was beautiful and lovely to him, and I wasn't, any more."

Despite his taunts they went to bed together at the flat on October 14 and began "to get more friendly", and indulge in sex.

"But then, he started pushing me away, and hitting me. He turned on his side and said 'he didn't want to be bothered with me again'. I picked up a champagne bottle from the drinks bar by the bed and I hit him over the head. I went mad, and I was crazy. I lost self control."

"I realized he must be dead after I stopped trembling. I was so frantic and frenzied that I can't remember a thing."

The trial continues.

Boys' invention solves problem for blind

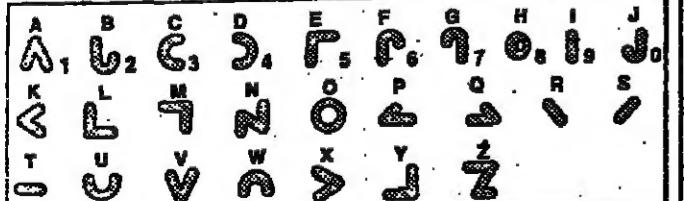
By Kenneth Gosling

A new machine to help the blind and partially sighted to read and write has been invented by three pupils at Sevenoaks School in Kent, using a system of symbols devised in 1847. It could be in production next year and the three young inventors hope it will cost no more than an ordinary typewriter.

Yesterday Chris Berry, aged 16, and Neil Darracott, and Jon Harlow both 17, were in London to receive a £500 award for having solved a problem that has defeated their elders for well over a century: how to adapt Dr William Moon's system of embossed writing, using an alphabet of only nine characters, so that virtually anyone, blind or sighted, can write it.

The prototype, which is smaller than a portable typewriter, will now undergo three month's field trials at the Centre for the Education of the Visually Handicapped in Birmingham.

Last autumn, Mr Cedric

The Moon alphabet - nine symbols in different orientations representing the letters and numbers.

Fugitive's bail backers lose £90,000

Four people were ordered yesterday to forfeit a total of £90,000 in bail they put up for an American, facing pornography smuggling charges, who fled from London to New York last month.

The Recorder of London, Sir James Miskin, QC, sitting at the Central Criminal Court, said he would not order the four sureties to forfeit all the £150,000 they had put up, because they had not acted negligently. The American, Scott Dorman, aged 33, described as a book distributor, had behaved abominably, he said.

Mr Dorman's fiancée, Rosemary Unsworth, a *Times* Business News journalist, is to forfeit £15,000, as is Andrew Eagle, a television producer. Miss Unsworth's father, a dentist, and Victoria Morris, an advertising agent, must each pay £30,000.

Portraits of the artists making monumental decisions



Members of the Society of Portrait Sculptors making their selections for an exhibition in the Mall Gallery, London, which will run from October 17 to 22. Right: One of the judges, Miss Freda Skinner, deliberating. (Photographs: John Voos).

Teenagers 'embarrassed by trendy parents'

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, Cambridge

Parents and teachers should be firm with adolescents and not attempt to copy their dress or behaviour, Dr Martyn Gay, a consultant psychiatrist from Bristol, told the Headmasters' Conference yesterday.

Addressing its annual meeting in Cambridge, he said "it was worried by parents and other adults who tried to blur the gap between children and adults."

In some schools you cannot see the difference between teachers and taught in dress, behaviour or anything else," he said.

"I am sure there are adolescents who are very embarrassed fre-

quently by the behaviour of their parents. It is necessary to have a generation boundary between adolescents and adults."

Dr Gay, who works at the Bristol Royal Hospital for Sick Children, had five pieces of advice for adults in dealing with adolescents:

They must be firm; they must be consistent; they must be able to communicate with young people yet remain distanced from them; they must be sensitive to the aggressive feelings in themselves which adolescents brought out; and they should provide a stimulating environment in which

pupils instead of referring them to a psychiatrist, he said. They might then end up at a secure unit such as Kingswood in Bristol, after murdering or raping someone.

The irony was that the fathers of such pathological individuals were often pathological themselves but were regarded as successful, he said.

They were referred for various reasons because they could not work; they could not cope with people; they stole; or they suffered physical pain.

The big public schools represented by the Headmasters' Conference were able to expect

Store sued for arrest

From Our Correspondent, York

Miss Doris White, aged 72, Christmas shopping in December, yesterday began a rare legal action against a department store that called her a thief.

She is suing W. P. Brown of York, which wrongly accused her of stealing a Christmas card and from the display and putting it into her shopping bag.

The police later discovered she had not bought or stolen anything from the store in Davygate, York.

The manager caught up with her in the office of a local newspaper. She told the jury that the man snatched her shopping bag.

Miss White was taken back to the store and made to sit in a cubicle in full view of shoppers for 20 minutes. The hearing continues today.

If you're shopping around for expertise in construction, give us a checkout.



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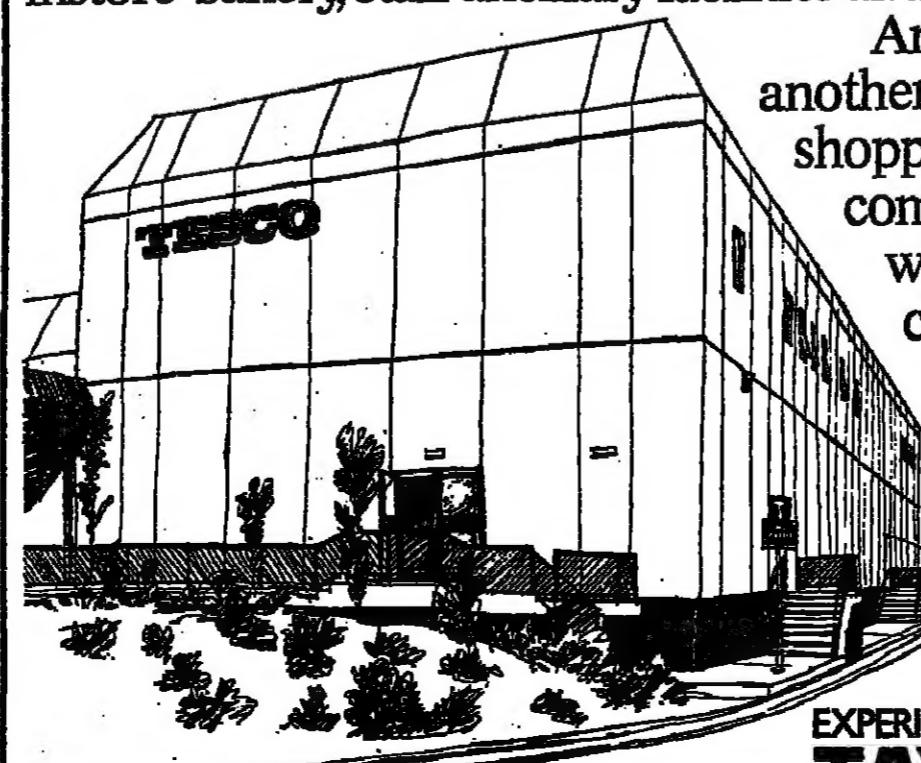
Last year, we completed a new superstore in Newton Abbot for Tesco one month ahead of schedule.

The extra time to fit out, stock and train staff meant Tesco could profit by starting business that much earlier. The store, with a sales area of over 2,800 square metres is equipped with 22 of the latest computerised checkouts, an instore-bakery, staff ancillary facilities and parking for 500 cars.

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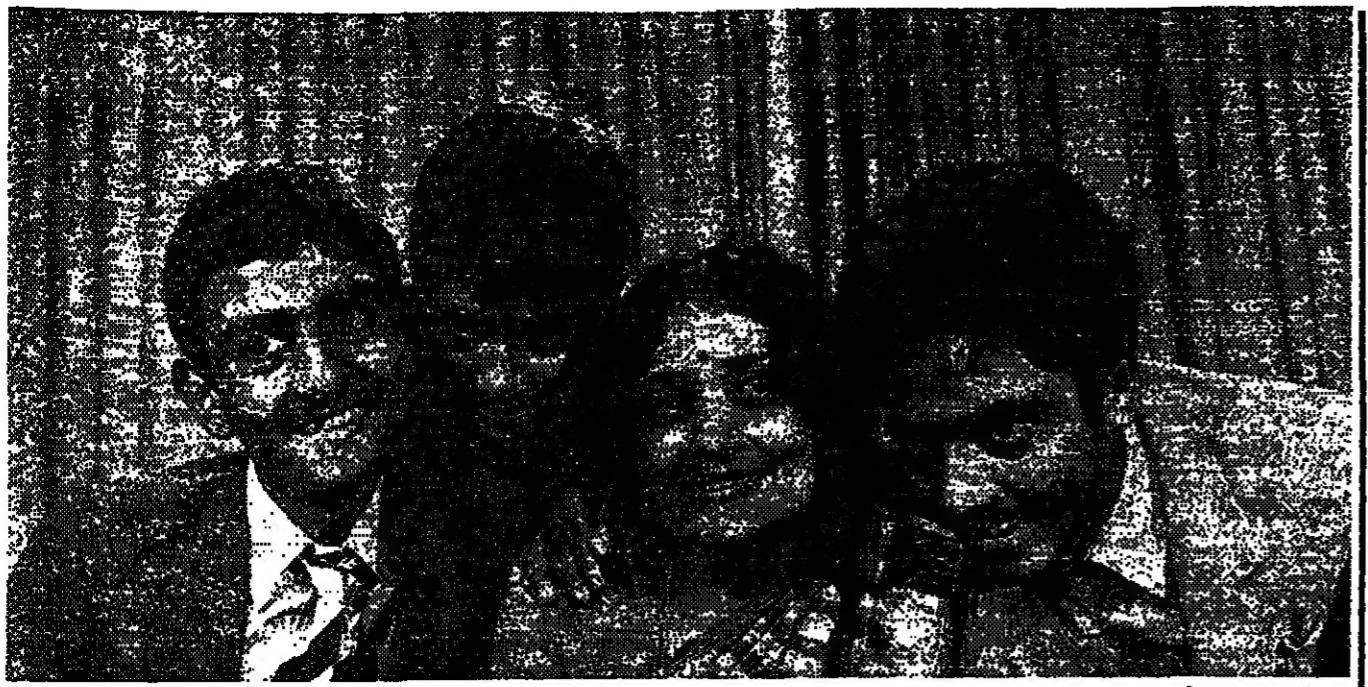


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Mrs Patel with (from left) Sanjesh, Diptesh and Jayesh yesterday (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Expelled sons reunited with mother

By Nicholas Timmins

Three Indian boys, expelled from Britain four years ago amid publicity, were finally reunited with their mother at Heathrow airport, London, yesterday.

Jayesh, aged 20, Sanjesh aged 17, and Diptesh Patel, aged 14, have been granted the right to settle in the United Kingdom with their mother, Mrs Manjula Patel, aged 43, who is divorced, after a four-year battle against the immigration procedures that has cost her several thousand pounds.

Mrs Patel, of Gillingham, Kent, who works in a food factory, said: "I am so happy that my children are back home. For the past four years the boys have lived in terrible conditions in India in a dirty place with six or seven people in one room. The Home Office should have recognized in the first place that they could have

given me my children very easily a long time ago."

Mrs Patel, who is now a British citizen, first came to Britain in 1975. She was granted the right to stay permanently in 1978. She maintained that her marriage had broken down years before and that her husband, described by the Immigration Appeal Tribunal as a wastrel, took no responsibility for the children who were living with their grandparents.

In 1979 she brought the three children to England without entry clearance because the elderly grandparents could not look after them properly and asked that they be allowed to stay.

Despite a campaign to allow them to stay that was supported by Dr Donald Coggan, who was then Archbishop of Canterbury, the Home Office insisted that

they return to India to apply for entry in the normal way.

When they did so, clearance was refused in November, 1981. An appeal was rejected last year. But in July this year a tribunal agreed that the children should be admitted.

The tribunal nevertheless called Mrs Patel "a shameless liar" because of discrepancies over when her marriage broke down and her knowledge of her husband's whereabouts. But it concluded that the basis of her claim, that she was solely responsible for the children, was valid.

Mr Praful Patel, of the Committee on United Kingdom Citizenship who comes from the same village in Gujarat, western India as Mrs Patel, said: "The Home Office could have shown a lot more understanding, compassion and humanity four years

ago. The children have lost four of their formative years and the family has had much unnecessary suffering."

At Heathrow the children, smartly dressed but speaking little English, said they hoped to be able to study in England, with Diptesh, the youngest child going to school.

• The Greater London Council yesterday joined the campaign to allow several hundred Cyprus refugees to remain in Britain. The refugees, who came after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974, are under threat of deportation.

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the GLC, said: "These refugees have settled here and earned their living here. Their children have gone to school here and in many cases have been born here. This is their home, not Cyprus."

operations manager, said yesterday: "By the end of 1983 we shall have 102 robots at Halewood, making our plant one of the most modern of its type in Europe."

Investment for the 1984 Fiesta

has been concentrated largely at Dagenham, where new body panels called for changes in tooling.

Like all car makers nowadays Ford will not release new car prices until the last minute, to prevent competitors changing their own prices. Orion and Fiesta prices will be announced on Friday the launch day.

Ford also announced yesterday a £100,000 programme to help disabled people who want to drive. A specially-designed mobile electronic unit housed in a lorry will travel the country enabling them to determine the strength and coordination of each limb and selecting the most appropriate modified car controls.

Those interested should apply to the Mobility Centre, Banstead Place, Banstead, Surrey.

Mr Ted Rayment, Halewood

chief dismisses cable fear

By Kenneth Gosling

Fears that the advent of cable television will diminish the importance of balance in the BBC's journalism were rejected last night by Mr Stuart Young in his first public speech as chairman of the BBC.

Mr Young said: "In my opinion it will do exactly the reverse. It will make the need for the public service broadcaster stronger than ever".

Mr Young, who was addressing delegates to the Institute of Journalists' annual conference in Blackpool, also attacked people who believed that there were appearances on the BBC indicated possession of the corporation's seal of approval.

"Thus if we report a terrorist act we are accused of giving succour to the terrorists and of endorsing their aims. What our critics never seem to ask themselves is this - what sort of country would United Kingdom be if such things happened and were not reported?"

Robots boost new Ford challenge

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Ford has spent £30m on robots and other automated machines in its British factories in an attempt to reduce the cost of producing the new Orion and Fiesta models to the level achieved by its continental plants. Both cars go on sale on Friday.

Production of the Orion, an enlarged version of the Escort but with a boot which Ford hopes will capture lost Cortina sales, began at Halewood last week. Since 1979 Ford has spent more than £250m on the Merseyside plant, usually accompanied by dire warnings about its future unless productivity improved dramatically.

Some progress has been made, but Halewood's Escorts still cost appreciably more to produce than those from Ford, Cologne. A large proportion of the latest investment went on 14 robot spot welders and electronically-controlled mechanical handling systems which the Escort will share with the Orion.

Mr Ted Rayment, Halewood

operations manager, said yesterday: "By the end of 1983 we shall have 102 robots at Halewood, making our plant one of the most modern of its type in Europe."

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Town planning today: 3

Case against ministers as judge and jury

Some people no longer trust the planning system. In the last of three articles, HUGH CLAYTON, Environment Correspondent, outlines the suspicion that surrounds that system and explains its damaging effect.

Opponents of the proposed Sizewell B nuclear power station on the Suffolk coast protested bitterly at the beginning of the year. They said that their slender

resources could never match those available to the Central Electricity Generating Board, which wanted to build the station.

They felt that the system was loaded against them from the

start, however fair and open the inquiry hearings might be as a debate. They feared that the inquiry could never be a contest of equals.

They had to raise money to cover the cost of making a detailed technical case against the station. Their finance came from jumble sales and their own pockets, while their opponents in the board could draw from an apparently bottomless public chest.

Opponents of the third London airport at Stansted in Essex were similarly aggrieved. They had to scrape together from private funds the cost of fighting the airport plan. Their opponents in the British Airports Authority, again using public funds, were able to field a large team of lawyers not only to plead for Stansted, but also to oppose the alternative expansion of Heathrow.

The arguments were not simply about finding the costs of long attendance at planning inquiries. They were about the ability of individuals who feel threatened by development to have a fair chance of getting it off. Large projects put forward by public authorities can affect the lives of thousands of people.

Some of those affected suspect that they have no chance, and that public inquiries are a sham designed to disguise the fact that serious decision-making takes place away from the public eye.

They fear that if somebody wants to build an airport or an oil terminal on an industrial estate or a motorway behind their homes, there is little that they can do about it.

Friends of the Earth has taken

the suspicion a stage further in its opposition to the extension of the M40 for more than 40 miles from Oxford to the outskirts of Birmingham. It has boycotted the public inquiry into the motorway, claiming that the planning system offends against natural justice.

Ministers decide where they want to build a motorway. They then arrange for a public inquiry to be held before an independent inspector who makes a report in which he recommends whether the motorway should be built. The final decision rests entirely with the ministers who proposed the thing in the first place.

Such an inquiry should inquire into the role of ministers in the planning process. Does the present structure make them judges and jury in their own cases?

The Friends of the Earth organization has taken its case against the British planning system to the European Court of Human Rights. It has not yet received an answer.

The other side of the argument about planning, often voiced in anger by frustrated ministers and civil servants, is that all the talk of injustice is simply a form of filibustering.

Some of the supporters of the M40 extension predicted when it was proposed that opponents would try to split up the inquiry in the hope that wrangling about the project would last long enough for the present government, which favours the motorway, to be ousted by one which opposed it.

Those who are against radical change in the planning system say that it is already so heavily loaded with democratic checks and balances that it is difficult to bring into being any necessary development. The introduction of more checks and balances would make the system so unwieldy and long-winded as to be unworkable.

The planning system is thus surrounded by suspicions that ministers ignore the rules, that farmers are left outside the rules, that public bodies use the rules to their own advantage and that objectors play the rules in order to delay a just decision against them. There is no clear path through the tangle of suspicions which surrounds the system.

The resentment which now

surrounds the system is so intense that it cannot be dismissed as inevitably sour grapes and the bitterness of bad losers.

A special inquiry should

investigate the possibility of public funding for objectors to match that available to the promoters of giant projects such as Sizewell and the third London airport. It should examine the inquiry system itself, to see if there is a need for a new type of examination of the wider implications of large developments.

The Stansted inquiry, the longest held in Britain, demonstrated fully the strain that such a giant investigation places on the framework of a local inquiry; the broad question of whether a new airport was needed had to be mixed with the narrow issue of its impact on the countryside near Stansted.

Such an inquiry should

address the role of ministers in the planning process. Does the present structure make them judges and jury in their own cases?

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Mugabe supporters chant anti-British songs and call for whites to go

HARARE (AFP) - Supporters of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu), carrying anti-British placards, massed in front of the building housing the British High Commission and calling for whites to leave Zimbabwe. The demonstration followed Mugabe's attack on the Thatcher Government at the weekend.

About 1,000 members of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu), carrying anti-British placards, massed in front of the building housing the British High Commission and chanting: "Let them (whites) go. Most of Zimbabwe's 140,000 whites are of British extraction."

A small group of demonstrators climbed the stairs to the sixth floor where the British Mission is located, singing anti-Thatcher songs. Officials from the High Commission held what a High Commission spokesman called a "brief" informal meeting with the deputation.

The demonstrators left the building and the crowd moved off peacefully after about 15 minutes.

But youths on the fringes of the crowd threatened white reporters, saying "British go home."

An angry Mr Mugabe told a press conference on Sunday, on his return from a tour to Ireland, the United States and Canada, that Zimbabwe's relations with the former colonial power had been harmed by British insistence that seven white Air Force officers detained on charges of sabotaging aircraft be freed. Four of the seven are dual British-Zimbabwean citizens. Three have been freed and deported, but four remain in jail here.

Accusing Britain of "intimidation and manipulation", Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe could do without British aid and added that if Mrs Thatcher wanted whites of British extraction back, she had only to say so and we will facilitate their repatriation.

The Prime Minister's statement was a notable departure from the policy of reconciliation with the white minority which he has followed since Zimbabwe gained independence under black rule in

1980 after a seven-year guerrilla war.

The demonstrators, the bulk of

them members of the Zanu Women's League clad in traditional shifts and headscarves bearing Mr Mugabe's picture, formed up outside a party office and marched through Harare's main shopping streets as white and black office workers hung out windows to watch.

They carried signs proclaiming: "British passport holders go home"; "Thatcher, we want our aeroplanes back, swing"; "No reconciliation with imperialism"; "Stop pensions to former rebels"; and "Nationalize all settler farms now".

At his press conference, Mr Mugabe had suggested that if Britain persisted with what he called interference, his Government might default on its pledges to pay pensions for civil servants and many men who served under the Rhodesian regime and taken over to resettle black peasants.

The foreign press corps was treated to a modest but tasty dinner of fricassee de fruits de mer, filet de boeuf, with gratin dauphinoise and a raspberry sorbet. They drank Pouilly Fuisse '81, Chateau Tallois and Maxim's own champagne.

For the previous week wires of correspondents had schemed and intrigued to get invitations to the dinner which was originally meant only for the gastronomes' spouses. One or two succeeded.

The Chinese staff, though trained at only four days' notice, put up a creditable performance.

The guests included M. Cardin's licensees, including a lady from Hungary, where he has just set up a boutique. He already has a rather sparsely patronized shop at the Temple of Heaven in Peking.

Having sent out invitation cards, specifying *seulement* for the dinner, M. Cardin later put the word around that those who had *le smoking* (dinner jacket) should wear it - to the chagrin of those who had dutifully turned out in lounge suits as instructed.

The inauguration has also been marked by fashion shows. M. Cardin has been heard to remark many times "Oh, je aime la chine" ("How I love China").

• Fashion show: Eighteen Chinese fashion models had earlier presented a complete range of ritzy ready-to-wear outfits designed in Paris by M. Cardin but made in China entirely from local fabrics. (Kerry reports).

This unprecedented event took place at the Palace of Minorities in Peking, better known for folk-dance evenings, in front of foreign buyers from 22 countries and Mrs Chen Shuhua, China's Foreign Trade Minister.

To the accompaniment of disco music, tall, leggy girls stalked down the catwalk in fur jackets, tapered black pants, mid-calf boots and French berets, or pirouetted in dresses of diaphanous silk.

Zhao reiterates hope to visit America

PEKING (Reuters, AP) Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Premier, yesterday confirmed his intention of visiting the United States and reiterated the invitation for President Reagan to visit China.

Speaking before meeting the US Defence Secretary, Mr Caspar Weinberger, Mr Zhao said: "There has been a trend for the better in Sino-US relations recently and I think this is something we welcome."

He said an exchange of visits would be made next spring, but further discussions were needed to set the date, including discussions with Mr Weinberger.

His statement was further confirmation of signs of a limited thaw in Sino-US relations in the past three months after a period of extreme tension over American arms sales to Taiwan.

Yesterday, Mr. Weinberger visited a peasant infantry division which grows cabbages on the target range and drills in guerrilla tactics.

He was taken to the No. 1 division of the Peking garrison for half an hour to watch hand-to-hand combat drills and target practice with rifles, mortars and machine-guns.

He ends his visit to Peking today after meeting Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader, and flying to Xish in the north-west.

China considers the continuing US arms sales to Taiwan are a flagrant breach of its sovereignty over the nationalised island.

Referring to Mr Weinberger's offer to consider sales of defensive weapons to Peking, Mr Zhao said: "China would rely on its own efforts to modernise its huge but obsolescent military machine."

"It is inconceivable for a big nation like China to bring about the modernisation of its national defence by buying military equipment from foreign countries," he said.

However, when asked if he would buy any US weapons, he said: "If the US side is willing to sell military equipment to China, if we have the need and the

Lebanon's fragile ceasefire

From Robert Pisk, Beirut

Elected by what it regards as the humiliation of President Amin Gemayel's American-supported government in Beirut, the Syrians are making no secret of their determination to work for the final destruction of the unofficial "peace" agreement between Israel and Lebanon.

Government-controlled newspapers in Damascus are also referring to the Druze militia in Lebanon who have been fighting the Lebanese army as "patriotic forces" who have spurned American plans for the region.

The papers have at the same time been publicizing Mr Denis Healey's suggestion that Britain should dissociate itself from the peacekeeping force in Lebanon if the US becomes further involved in the conflict.

The Syrians are portraying themselves as the architects of the two-day-old ceasefire in Lebanon which have been fighting the Lebanese army as "patriotic forces" who have spurned American plans for the region.

disappeared now that pro-Syrian Lebanese politicians are to be included in the conference for national reconciliation in Lebanon.

The significance of this is clear: once Mr Gemayel's government represents pro-Syrian as well as pro-Palestinian, the Syrians have no objection to his remaining president.

"The opposition leaders of the National Salvation Front have achieved a victory," a Syrian told *The Times* yesterday. "The majority in Lebanon have therefore won. This is a victory."

Nor do the authorities in Damascus do the same thing as permitting the fruits of this victory to be lost if the ceasefire in Lebanon breaks down.

Scarcely 12 hours before the Lebanese Army claimed that Druze militia in the mountains above Beirut were being supplied with artillery weapons; I saw 12 large Grad missile launchers

being taken off Syrian army lorries through the heavily-armed Lebanese town of Zahlé on the road to Sidon and the coast.

The Syrians are not disengaged in their political planning, and Western embassies in Damascus believe Syria's attempts to crush the last independent Palestinian guerrilla movement in Lebanon loyal to Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman, should be seen in the light of the two-day-old ceasefire.

Heavy fighting was going on around the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli yesterday between pro- and anti-Arafat factions of the PLO while Syrian troops ordered the remaining Arafat loyalists out of Beaufort, and Hamra.

Disident Palestinians of Colonel Amin Muhamad's PLO now control checkpoints on the mountain ridges east of Beirut, effectively controlling the Anat

man to the Tripoli area.

With almost all the Palestinian forces in Lebanon now under their control, the Syrians can apply further pressure on Mr Gemayel during the proposed reconciliation talks. If the Lebanese President wants the ELO to withdraw its men from Lebanon, then a price will have to be paid for this.

That price is not difficult to discover in Damascus. "Syria", the English-language *Syria Times* claimed yesterday, "will not give up her main goal to foil this Israeli-Lebanese accord since this accord is at the root of the current crisis in Lebanon. Syria . . . will not bargin or make concessions, regardless of American sabre-rattling and military threats".

Curiously, the Syrian Foreign Ministry also expressed more anger at France's air strike against Syrian artillery positions in Lebanon last week than at the US naval bombardment there.



Playtime: Two United States Marines enjoying a break from the fighting with a game of Monopoly as the ceasefire holds

Warders cleared of murder

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Eight South African prison warders were yesterday cleared of the murder of three of their black prisoners last December, but six of them, four whites and two blacks, were found guilty on various charges of assault.

The eight men were accused of beating three convicts to death and seriously assaulting 34 others at the Barberton prison farm in the Eastern Transvaal on December 25, which Mr Justice Dick Vernon said, in his summing-up, was "An evil day".

During the six-week trial, the state council submitted evidence that the accused had repeatedly and savagely beaten their charges with heavy rubber truncheons while they were pushing wheelbarrows laden with gravel in a heat of 95°F.

In his opening remarks, the judge said that "for two hours the work site at the prison farm (on the farm) became a battlefield, leaving three corpses and a large number of injured convicts". The party of 44 convicts put to work at the dam on that day had been sent on "nothing more than a punishment expedition".

The judge found three of the white accused, Warrant Officers Gert Smit, aged 38, and warders Christianus Horne, aged 19, and Jacques Stoltz, aged 18, guilty on 17 counts of assault with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm, and nine counts of common assault.

A fourth white warder, Bryan van Dyk, aged 24, was convicted on four counts of assault with intent and three of common assault, and was given a total of 18 months' imprisonment. William Botha, aged 47, and James Mchamed, aged 32, were found guilty on a total of seven counts of assault with intent.

Two other black warders were acquitted of all charges because of insufficient evidence.

The Judge instructed the Attorney-General to investigate the circumstances prior to December 25, 1982, that resulted during that trial that Botha and Nicemand had ordered warders to "hit (one of the convicts) dead because they had been at an office", and that on the morning of the killings he had been looking for "men who could break batons".

SAfricans can survive oil boycott

George, South Africa (Reuters)

South Africa could withstand and survive a total boycott on oil supplies, according to Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister.

Listing his Government's achievements to a congress of the Cape Provincial Party, Mr Botha said: "Monday night that South Africa had become an energy self-sufficient country, that at least we had our own oil boycott.

He gave no details. The South African-based increased the production of oil from coal at its Sasol plants and meets a sizable proportion of its oil needs from this source, according to oil industry sources.

The Republic is also known to be among only a few of the world's oil importers to have imposed an embargo by nearly all the exporting countries over its policy of apartheid.

Blanco leader fasts in jail

Montevideo (Reuters)

Senior Plaza Peronista, Senator Pedro Fernandez Menendez, a leading Uruguayan politician, arrested and kept incommunicado in connection with a day of protest against the military Government, has gone on hunger strike, according to his relatives.

A leader of the Blanco Party, he began his fast when he was arrested on Friday while carrying out his advertising Sunday's national day of protest against the Uruguayan military regime.

Kiribati protest

Seoul (AP)

A group of 24 South Korean opposition politicians, led by Mr Kim Young Sam, have launched a democratic campaign with the primary objective of obtaining a constitutional amendment allowing South Koreans to directly and freely elect the country's president.

The Broederbond was founded in Johannesburg in 1918 as a cultural organization by a handful of Afrikaners who feared that the identity of the Volk was threatened by British cultural and economic dominance. The Anglo-Boer war still a fresh memory and many Afrikaners were dispirited and confused.

£300m grant

Delhi (AP) Britain will provide India with the equivalent of £300m to develop mining activities under an agreement signed yesterday. Half the grant will be used to import goods and services from Britain half to finance local costs.

Kaunda appeal

Lusaka (AFP) - President Kaunda has deployed Zanuarm troops along the border with Zambia and appealed to President Mobutu to help fight armed robbery and killings in Zambia, which he blamed on Zanuarm soldiers.

103 saints

Rome (Reuters) - One hundred Korean Roman Catholics, a Korean bishop and two French missionaries in Korea, all martyred in the nineteenth century, are to be canonized at Rome.

Nuclear alert

Madrid (AFP) - By the end of the century the amount of nuclear waste worldwide will have increased tenfold to 200,000 tonnes, according to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Floods kill 114

Dhaka (AP) - Two weeks of floods in Bangladesh have claimed 114 lives and affected more than three million people, officials said.

Although Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, seems to have won the allegiance of the organization's leadership for his modest constitutional reforms which would permit a very limited sharing of power with mixed-blood Coloureds and Indians (but not with black Africans), there is clear evidence of wide dissatisfaction among its members.

Many Broederbond members, like their ousted chairman, undoubtedly support the breakaway extreme-right-wing Conservative Party of Dr Andries Treurnicht, which is adamantly opposed to the reforms. Dr

Athens keeps ban on Beirut forces

From Mark Modiano, Athens

Greece hailed the Lebanon ceasefire yesterday but adhered to its decision to bar the use of Greek facilities for the transfer of troops or military equipment to that country.

After denying the United States clearance for 40 flights of Air Force transports carrying supplies for the United States peace force by way of Crete, the Greek Government said it had turned back on Monday a Beirut-bound supply ship of the US Sixth Fleet which sought permission to take ammunition from the American base stores at Suda Bay in Crete.

Italian soundings for permission to use Greek airports to airlift supplies for the Italian force in Lebanon also elicited a negative response from the Greeks who insisted that the ban, designed to keep Greece out of the Lebanese conflict, was applicable to all countries.

Opposition newspaper, however, claimed that the Socialist

EEC plays down Greek rift at UN

From Zorana Pyrsarowsky, New York

Greece last night provided the United Nations General Assembly with the EEC view of the world as Community members sought to play down the seriousness of the Greek Government's frequent insistence on deviating from the common EEC foreign policy line.

Strenuous denials were being made over reports that Greece's attitudes on a number of issues, including the Soviet destruction of the Korean airliner, were making it difficult to draft a common text. Meetings among the EEC political directors were said to have gone smoothly.

It was widely believed that the Community did not want to give the impression of being a divided body, particularly away from Brussels and in the midst of the rest of the international community. It was thought that the EEC needed to provide a show of unity if its traditional role as

bridgebuilder in conflicts was to be effective.

The gathering of leaders in New York was providing the opportunity for various discussions, some intended simply to review issues and some to develop common strategies. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, met his Spanish counterpart, Señor Fernando Morán, on Monday. The discussions focused on Gibraltar.

A British spokesman described the session as useful and said that both ministers were looking forward to further meetings.

Spanish sources said that the two ministers agreed to appoint technical committees to report on various aspects of the problem.

The composition of the committees along with their terms of reference would be decided later on.

Heads of state and government were last night expected to

Ex-Rumasa head called a rebel

From a Correspondent Madrid

Señor Jose Maria Ruiz Mateos, the President of Rumasa, Spain's biggest private holding company that was nationalized in February, was declared by the Madrid criminal court to be in a state of "legal rebellion".

He had failed to obey summonses to appear in court on four occasions. The ruling enables the Government to request Señor Ruiz Mateos's extradition.

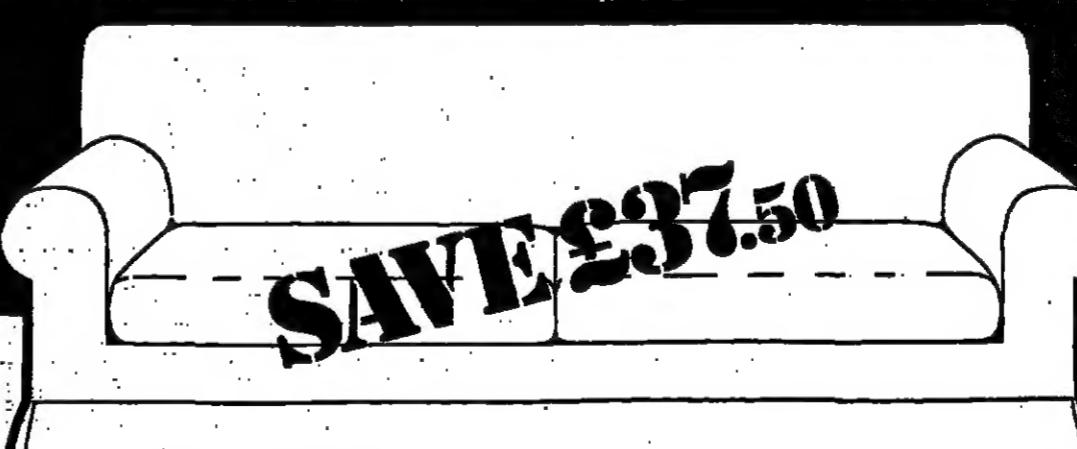
There is no extradition treaty between Spain and Britain, only a reciprocal extradition arrangement. This implies that Britain would also have to request the extradition of a British citizen from Spain.

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Doors firmly closed on arms deal



The empty seat: An angry Soviet UN delegation leaves the seat intended for Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, unoccupied.

Russia condemns Reagan's 'blatant lies'

From Richard Owen
Moscow

Mr Andrei Gromyko may not have been in the United Nations General Assembly to hear President Reagan urge Russia to "walk through the door" to an arms agreement on Monday, but Tass yesterday indicated the way in which the Soviet Foreign Minister would have declined the invitation.

It said the fact that the door was closed was the fault of the United States, and Mr Reagan had made a speech full of "gross distortions, demagoguery, misinformation and blatant lies".

Tass also attacked Mrs Margaret Thatcher, accusing her of pathological anti-communism and saying she had put the blame for the Geneva impasse "at the wrong door".

All in all, there was a lot of talk about doors in Moscow yesterday and very little hope that they might open on to a bright future

of arms agreements and East-West concord.

Tass said Mr Reagan had tried "to prove what cannot be proved, that his Administration's policy of whipping up tension and inciting preparations for war meets the lofty aims and principles of the United Nations Charter".

It said the American President had regretted the rise in tensions in regional "areas of confrontation between the great powers", when in fact it was Washington itself which had "stoked the fires" of conflict from Lebanon to El Salvador.

Referring to Mr Reagan's thesis that some non-aligned nations were in fact client states of the Soviet Union, Tass said it had clearly annoyed America that non-aligned states were pursuing policies not to Washington's liking.

Tass did not discuss in detail Mr Reagan's new proposals at the Geneva talks on medium range

missiles, which have already been dismissed by the Kremlin as nothing new. It said the President had used his address to slander the Soviet Union by trying to blame Moscow for "the provocation involving a South Korean plane". His speech was an attempt to camouflage the "aggressive imperialist essence" of American foreign policy.

Mr Gromyko, who should have attended the General Assembly session but withdrew when restrictions were placed on his Aeroflot flight to New York, spent the day receiving Mr Bohuslav Chmoupek, the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister. Soviet television showed shots of Mr Gromyko trying - not very successfully - to look at if he would rather be talking to Mr Chmoupek than taking centre stage at the United Nations.

President Andropov's contribution was an oblique one, as has been his style lately, and took the form of a message to the Afro-Asian Writers Association confer-

ence in Tashkent. He said the world situation was "extremely complicated and difficult" due to imperialism's preparations for war and the United States' "big stick" policy in Asia, Africa and Latin America. "There is now no greater task than the curbing of this senseless arms race," he said.

In an attack on Mrs Thatcher's television interview, Tass said the Prime Minister was so blinded by anti-communism that she could not see it was Nato and not Russia which had launched the arms race. She had repeated "hackedeyed" reasons for not including the British and French deterrents in the talks, and had been unable to refrain from "gross anti-Soviet insinuations" when discussing the airliner tragedy.

"Mrs Thatcher urges the Soviet Union to apologize," Tass commented, "but her appeal has gone to the wrong address. It should have gone to the organizers of this provocation in Washington."

Diplomats said that Mr Reagan's concessions on the arms

talks fell "long way short of Moscow's position. Mr Reagan said that if Russia agreed to missile reduction on a global basis, and included Soviet rockets in Asia, the United States would not necessarily match all Soviet missiles stationed in Europe. But Moscow has refused consistently to include its Asian missiles in the talks, and demands that no new missiles at all should be deployed by Nato in Europe.

Mr Reagan's point that Pershing 2 missiles would be reduced as part of an agreement, as well as the slower cruise missile, is some comfort to Moscow, but not enough to allay Soviet fears of the Pershing's short flying time and target accuracy.

As for the suggestion that bombers should be counted as well as missile warheads, the Soviet Union does not agree with the United States over which nuclear-capable aircraft should be included.

Leading article, page 13.

Americans deny finding Korean jet black box

Tokyo (AP) - US naval vessels have located the flight data and voice recorders from the downed South Korean airliner, the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) said yesterday. American officials immediately denied it.

The NHK report, quoting government sources, came after a statement by the chief government spokesman and activity in northern Japan that set off a wave

of speculation that the Americans would soon recover the recorders.

Japan's Kyodo news service carried a similar report, quoting Foreign Ministry sources.

The report was denied by Lieutenant Gary Shroud, spokesman for the US Navy in Japan. "As of this afternoon we have not found the black box. I'm not waving on that one." The Foreign Ministry said they had no knowledge of the reports.

Policeman dies in Sind pre-poll riot

Islamabad (Reuter) - Tension mounted in Sind Province yesterday as three people died, a bomb exploded and police rounded up opposition leaders before tomorrow's controversial local elections, opposition sources said.

The sources said that three died and 13 were injured when a crowd of opposition supporters exchanged gunfire with police who were trying to inspect a polling station at Khanpur, northern Sind.

Police sources confirmed that

one policeman was killed while visiting the station. The opposition has called for a boycott of the polls because political parties are banned from contesting them.

A bomb rocked a government building in Shikarpur, seven miles from Khanpur, the sources added. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

The opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), which has kept up antigovernment unrest in central Sind since August 14, said that the

military government has rounded up more than 350 people to keep them from disrupting the elections.

Police searched more than 30 houses on Monday night in the provincial capital of Karachi, the MRD acting secretary general, Mr Iqbal Haider reported.

He said that there could be many more arrests in central Sind, where violent protests have resulted in the polls being delayed for three days in the worst-hit districts.

He noted that the fourteen and a half months that had elapsed since the cessation of fighting

was confirmation of Argentina's good will and its compliance with international law.

Falklands lobby launched by junta

From Zoria Pyarivsky
New York

Argentina is urging Britain's allies to persuade it to discontinue its "Fortress Falklands" policy, and has initiated its campaign in the UN General Assembly this year to attain coveted European support for negotiations over the sovereignty of the islands.

Señor Juan Aguirre Lazar, the Argentine Foreign Minister, said yesterday that the West should disassociate itself from Britain's "dangerous" policy. He cited the decision by Britain to establish what he called a strategic airbase in the Falklands as an escalation of its military expansionist policy in the South Atlantic.

It was clear, he said, that the base would be designed to allow Britain to extend its global strategic interests, and he gave warning of the danger of transforming the South Atlantic into a new zone of conflict between East and West.

He also accused Britain of thwarting all attempts at peace-making, including its refusal to accept the manifesto of the Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, to renew negotiations between the two sides.

Argentina is expected with its Latin allies to table a motion calling for the resumption of negotiations when the assembly debates the issue later this year.

There is little doubt that Argentina will win a resounding victory in the assembly for its stand, but it was clear from Señor Aguirre's remarks that European support is the most prized. Last year a majority of the European Community abstained in the vote on negotiations while the United States voted with Argentina.

In a right of reply, Mr Nicholas Barrington, Britain's representative, said that the many and varied accusations made by Argentina were without foundation. He said that Argentina had attempted to airbrush out the fact that it had broken off from the negotiating process with the deliberate and unprovoked invasion of the islands last year.

Señor Aguirre discounted Britain's contention that Argentina's failure to declare a formal end of hostilities was the source of continued tension. He said his country's attitude was in full conformity with the provisions of the UN Charter relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes.

He noted that the fourteen and a half months that had elapsed since the cessation of fighting

was confirmation of Argentina's good will and its compliance with international law.

The only white candidate, Mr Philip Leakey, was reported to

Terror in Corsica

French crack down on nationalists

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Less than a week after the outlawed Corsican National Liberation Front claimed responsibility for the murder of the second most senior civil servant in northern Corsica, the Government has decided to crack down on the Federation of Nationalist Councils. The political wing of the Corsican terrorist movement.

Announcing the decision to outlaw the federation after yesterday's Cabinet meeting, M Max Gallo, the Government spokesman, said that numerous and close links had been established between the two organizations. The federation has been in the forefront of the nationalists' campaign accusing the Government of responsibility for the alleged murder of M Guy Orsoni. The nationalist militant, who disappeared three months ago and whose body has never been found.

In a statement to the press last Wednesday, the front said that it had "executed" M Pierre-Jean Massimi, secretary-general of the Regional Council for North Corsica, and M Félix Rosso, a restaurant owner, for their part in the alleged murder of M Orsoni.

In particular, they accused M Massimi of having been given 1m francs (£80,000) by M Joseph Franceschi, the Minister of Public Security, in order to pay for hired hands to kill M Orsoni. The handing over of the money is alleged to have taken place on June 18, the day after M Orsoni's disappearance, when M Franceschi was indeed seen on the island.

The Government has clearly begun to worry about the effects of these allegations on public opinion. On Sunday, after a meeting with local Corsican councillors in Paris, M Gaston Daffere, Minister of the Interior, put out a statement "solemnly denying" such "aburd" rumours.

As a right of reply, Mr Nicholas Barrington, Britain's representative, said that the many and varied accusations made by Argentina were without foundation. He said that Argentina had attempted to airbrush out the fact that it had broken off from the negotiating process with the deliberate and unprovoked invasion of the islands last year.

Señor Aguirre discounted Britain's contention that Argentina's failure to declare a formal end of hostilities was the source of continued tension. He said his country's attitude was in full conformity with the provisions of the UN Charter relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes.

He noted that the fourteen and a half months that had elapsed since the cessation of fighting

was confirmation of Argentina's good will and its compliance with international law.

The only white candidate, Mr Philip Leakey, was reported to

M Franceschi: Accused by Corsican terrorists.

information after he had broadcast a report of a press conference last spring at which the nationalists claimed that two of their militants had been tortured by the police.

A spokesman for the Federation of Nationalist Councils denied that the Government had proof of "any organic relations" between it and "some clandestine movement".

Heavy turnover of MPs in Kenya election

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

First results in Kenya's general election yesterday showed the expected heavy turnover of former MPs, with several ministers and assistant ministers losing their seats.

In many areas the poll was small - sometimes less than 25 per cent of the electorate - indicating that a high proportion of the 7.2 million registered voters either stayed at home or were barred from voting because of mistakes in the electoral rolls.

The only white candidate, Mr Philip Leakey, was reported to

East Berlin concession to children

Berlin (AP) - East Germany announced yesterday it has dropped currency exchange requirements for children visiting from the West and has eased rules on family reunification.

The West German Government called the East Berlin action inadequate. This summer Bonn approved a DM1bn loan to East Germany to encourage easing of restrictions.

West Germany has repeatedly demanded abolition of the currency exchange law, saying it discourages Westerners from visiting East Germany. Visits have fallen sharply since East Berlin in 1980 doubled to DM25 the daily amount of Western currency that adult visitors must exchange. Children, aged between six and 14, had to exchange DM7.5 a day.

The Government has also had to withdraw three lots of Crown and from sale by public auction because not a single buyer was interested in the normal opening price.

On the political front, Mr John Walder, former Director of Home Affairs, blamed both the British and Chinese Governments for the collapse of the Hong Kong dollar.

He said that the British and Chinese were treating Hong Kong's five million people as "mute pawns" and did not care what damage they did to local living standards.

"There is increasing certainty that colonial authoritarian

leaders", said a Hong Kong commentator, Mr T. L. Tsui.

An influential local group, the Hong Kong Christian Industrial Committee, has appealed directly to Chinese and British authorities to prevent the collapse of the dollar and has warned Hong Kong against "committing collective suicide".

Sir Percy Cradock: New appointment praised.

The commission will invite Filipinos or foreigners who claimed to have witnessed Mr Aquino's killing at Manila airport on August 21 to testify before the commission, whose five members were appointed by President Marcos.

Queen's debut

Mbabane (Reuter) - The new Swazi Queen Regent Ntombi has received envoys from Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia in her first public engagement since her disputed appointment last month.

Korean scandal

Seoul (Reuter) - Prosecutors said they were questioning several officials of a South Korean bank in connexion with a £100m swindle. The Cheongju Bank said it had dismissed 11 of its officials.

Matterhorn toll

Zermatt (Reuter) - The number of people killed this year while climbing Switzerland's most famous peak, the Matterhorn, rose in a record 18 yesterday. A 36-year-old American was the latest victim.

Viper brood

Madrid (AP) - A horned gaboon viper has given birth to 70 offspring at the zoo here, almost double the normal number for the species. Weighing in at little more than 2 oz each the snake brood was reported to be doing well.

DO YOU HAVE AN OLD VEHICLE?

- If it has been off the road for some years you may need to take action before 30 November 1983.
- If you have a new-style computer-produced Registration Document (V5) for this vehicle you need not do anything. Otherwise, please read on.

WHAT IS IMPORTANT ABOUT 30 NOVEMBER?

After this date the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre cannot accept applications to record old vehicles under their original registration numbers. This means that you will lose the use of your number unless you act now.

WHAT MUST YOU DO?

Complete and send the coupon below to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre to make sure that your claim to the number is considered. Any old documents (not photo-copies) for the vehicle, eg an old style 'log book', tax disc or MOT certificate, should be attached to the coupon below.

10: DVLC, Longview Road, Swansea, SA6 7JL
Vehicle Registration Number _____
Make of Vehicle _____
Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
9/83
I also enclose:
<input type="checkbox"/> Old-style "Log Book"
<input type="checkbox"/> Old Licence Disc
<input type="checkbox"/> Old MOT Certificate
Please tick relevant boxes
Do you wish these documents to be returned? YES/NO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

الآن

Video sinks to new depths

Keen though we are to find more oil beneath the waves, we don't much enjoy plunging beneath them ourselves. Particularly in the North Sea, which is most unfriendly.

Frankly, we'd rather watch video.

And there's a British company called UDI (part of the John Brown Group) which is helping us do just that. Indeed, the help's been mutual. UDI technology owes much to Shell's encouragement.

Their sonar equipment builds a picture of the sea-bed by bouncing sound-waves off it; and then the cunning fellows convert the sounds into video numbers.

So you can see what the bottom of the sea sounds like. Mind blowing.

And who, apart from oilmen, would want to use such equipment?

You'd be surprised.

There's West Midlands County Council, for one. They've used UDI Sonar to delve into old, flooded underground limestone workings.

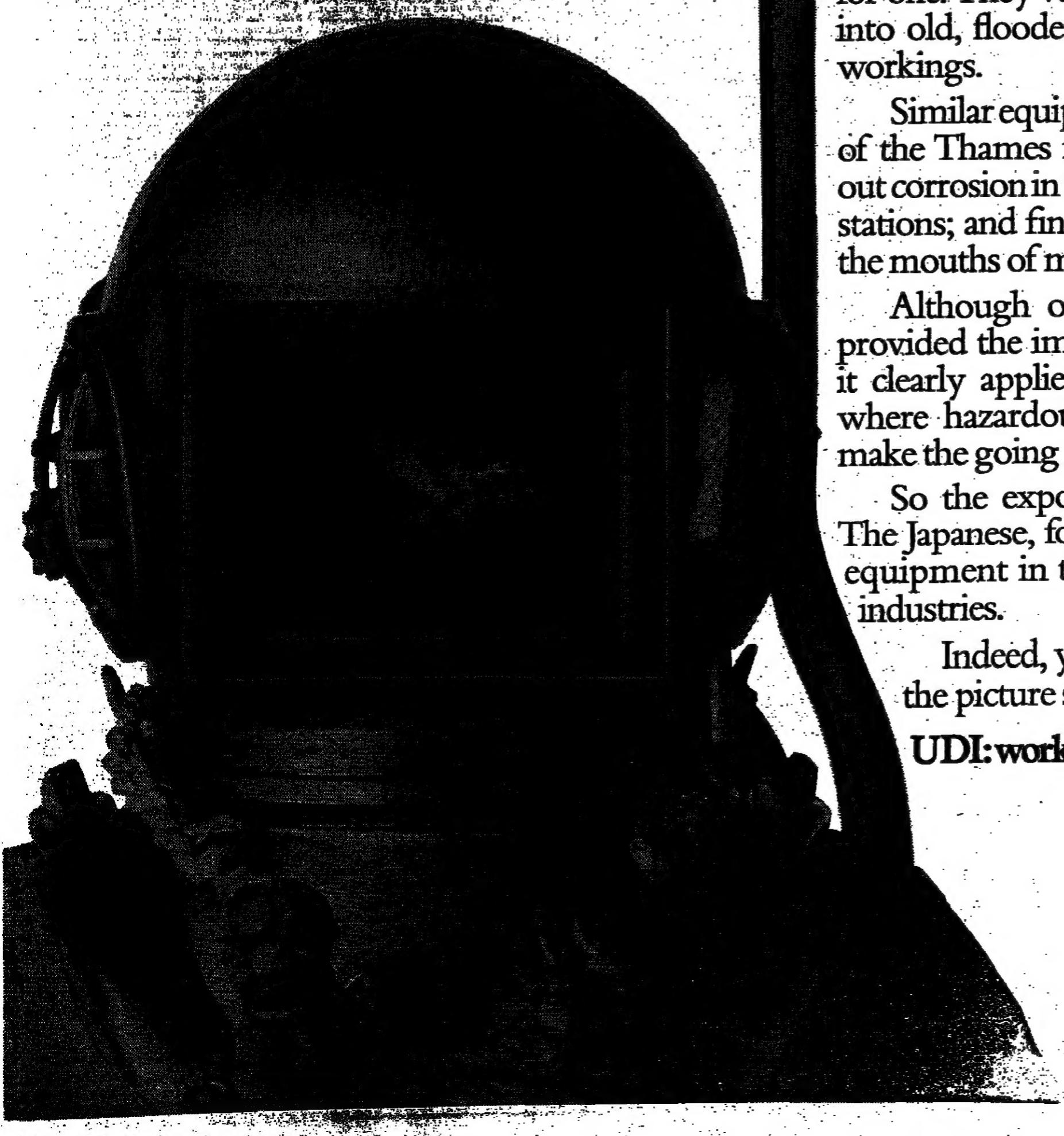
Similar equipment is helping surveyors of the Thames flood-barrier; and seeking out corrosion in the water-coolers of power stations; and finding underwater debris in the mouths of major ports.

Although our North Sea operations provided the impetus for this technology, it clearly applies anywhere in the world where hazardous underwater conditions make the going tough.

So the export orders are coming in. The Japanese, for instance, are using UDI equipment in their offshore oil and gas industries.

Indeed, you could say that for UDI the picture sounds rather rosy.

UDI: working well with Shell



SPECTRUM

Hot on the heels of the Whimsical Fifties and the Swinging Sixties came the baying, destructive anarchy of punk. In his concluding article on postwar style, Bevis Hillier looks back at the growth of young disenchantment in the Cynical Seventies - and sees within its conspicuous acts of violent bad taste the seeds of hope

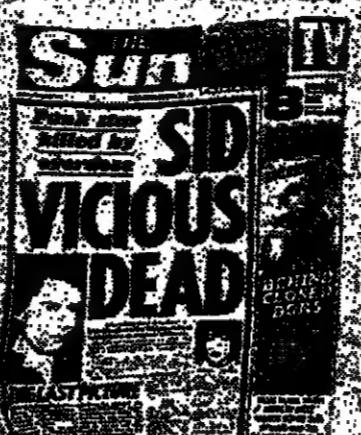
Will they cry for Johnny Rotten?

By the end of the 1970s, nostalgia was catching up with its own tail. Events were being recycled as nostalgia almost as soon as they happened. In January 1980, the enterprising Preston Polytechnic Library held a show called The Seventies. The catalogue began with an alphabetical list of people and things the organizers associated with the decade. They included Adidas' bags, Princess Anne, Amex, boat people, Bay City Rollers, colour television, digital watches, fast food, gay in, high-tech, hang-gliding, Party Hearst, jogging, Muppets, platform shoes, Angela Rippon, Johnny Rotten, skateboards, streakers, skinheads, Watergate and women's lib.

Decades come in pairs: the hard-faced political 1930s succeeded the frothy, escapist '20s; the good-time whimsical '50s clambered back to affluence after the austere '40s. The 1970s, too, had a character contrapuntal to that of the '60s. If the 1960s were swinging, optimistic, full of innovation, the '70s brought disenchantment, stagnation, a negative feeling, finally the baying, destructive, anarchy of

If one is looking for an alternative sobriquet for the 1970s, "the cynical '70s" probably comes closest to the truth. The drop-outs were running out of cash. The Beatles were disillusioned with their sly-old Maharishi. The drug culture may have expanded some minds but it had also reduced some lifespans, including those of the pop idols Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Brian Jones. The silver sheen had worn off the Chelsea Drug Store, and it was hideously repainted. The editor of *OZ* was arrested. Lenny Bruce committed suicide. Andy Warhol was shot. The establishment was twitching the reins of society again and calling its strays to heel.

David Frost, a leader of 1960s satirists, had become a poachy interviewer. The ex-satirist exchanged sycophantic chat with the ex-Shah of Iran and with ex-President Nixon. Jane Fonda began accepting her Oscars again. Dudley Moore, another '60s satirist, was assumed into Hollywood. Adapted from *The Style of the Century 1900-1980* by Bevis Hillier, published on October 20 by the Herbert Press, price £12.50.



Top: the cover of the first LP by the rock group Roxy Music. It features a return to glamour and fantasy, its lascivious image shot through with an irony soon to become all-pervasive.



Left: his death in New York while on bail for murder made Sid Vicious into a punk icon. Above right: the magazine i-D represents punk at its most sophisticated.

urinating cupids who performed when you warmed a glass bulb.

It is possible that the new popularity of *kitsch* represented boredom with the po-faced worthiness of modern movement design which had managed to survive all the novelties and freaks of the 1960s onwards. An anti-urban movement... Vernacular idyll was a style which made a great impact on progressives of this period, in their solar-heated houses... Bread crocks by Richard Batterham, a rag rug by John Hinckliffe, a bowl by Richard Raffan, a box by Lucy Goffin."

But other progressives were more attracted by high-tech - the use of industrial furniture in the home, such as metal factory shelves and tubular steel bunk beds (Habitat offered one), of which the architectural equivalent was the Postmodern Centre in Paris, whose "mechanical" inwards seemed to have been grafted on to its outside. High-tech belonged to the same ethos as Concorde, the high-speed train, micro-chips, television video games and shiny plastic clothes.

But something else entered: 1970s

design which was neither rural nor high-tech, but a calculated insult to both: *kitsch*, derivate, bad taste. Gido Dorfles's book *Kitsch* (1959) appeared in English in 1970 in what Hugh Honour described in a review as "an only too easily bad translation". Jacques Sternberg's *Kitsch* was published by Academy Editions, London, in 1972. Biba, which opened in the old Kensington store Derry & Toms in 1973, contained a "Kitsch" (sic) room, which sold filled plastic boxes, ashtrays like miniature loos and

with straps and slashed with zip-pockets; and shaved and dyed their hair into Mohican styles.

Punk combined violence and *kitsch*. The intelligentsia of the young generation had already had their baptism of brutality in the Paris May revolution of 1968, which had precipitated its own superb art form, the silkscreened and lithographed posters by which, as Jean Cassou wrote, the walls of Paris were "magnificently profaned". Now it was the turn of the non-university youth. In 1979 the punk rock star Sid Vicious died from an overdose of heroin in Greenwich Village, New York, while out on \$50,000 bail after being accused of murdering his American girlfriend Nancy Spungen. On October 1978. A film glorifying him was made, and the front page of *The Sun* of February 3, 1979, headlining his death, is still being printed on teashirts four years later.

If the psychedelic style of the 1960s was an adaptation of Art Nouveau, the basis of punk is to be found in the 1950s - in the hard rock style, in the spatters of Jackson Pollock, in the leopardskin patterns of strikers' coats and Lady Docker's car seats and in the elliptical frames of Holiday Inn signs.

The *Evening Standard* on August 19, 1977 used the funeral of Elvis Presley as a chance to rail against punk: "Presley's death like his life is inevitably attended by much that is ersatz and professionally staged - an extravaganza of *kitsch* of every variety.

But there is no mistaking the real shock, bereavement and desolation on thousands of those faces pressed against the gates of his house and queuing for the memorial service. Will they cry like that for Johnny Rotten?"

Probably not; but perhaps there was something to be said for punk beyond the punks' own suggestion of a justified revenge on a society that had given them some short shrift. In the contribution I was asked to write for the Preston Polytechnic Seventies exhibition catalogue, I tried to say what that "something" was: "Many regard punk as an evil phenomenon, something which threatens the fragile health of old ladies get beaten up on tube trains, who can dissent from this view? But in the decorative arts, I cannot help regarding it as something fresh and hopeful. Before a new order comes into being, the old one must be destroyed, and punk is nothing if not destructive. I grew up in decades, and in a section of society (the middle-middle-class) where conformity reigned. When I walk along the King's Road, Chelsea, today and see that young people have had the sheer courage to turn themselves into walking works of art with pink and green hair and extraordinary trousers hobbled at the legs by stapes, with weird tattoos on their hope for the arts. Good art can only begin with an act of bad taste - a shocking breach with the conformist past."

THE POP-UP WORLD OF JONATHAN MILLER

Just how does this phenomenon we call Jonathan Miller work?

Come to that, how do pop-up books work? Why is it that, when we open a pop-up book, Jonathan Miller's fingers come writhing out at us, labelled "Jonathan Miller's fingers"?

How do we know that they aren't seaweed or a new kind of tea time biscuit? And why are we asking all these questions? The technology of pop-up books goes back into the depth of history. The Romans had books. They also had statues, some of them looking remarkably like Jonathan Miller. Their problem was how to conserve the wood so that a wealthy Roman villa owner, living perhaps in Gaul but with a numbered account in Helvetia, could open a new coffee table volume and have the living features of Jonathan Miller, or just that year's Roman Emperor, spring out at him.

The Roman Empire never solved this problem and went bankrupt in the attempt in about AD600. At about the same time a small Saxon community in what we now call Germany was using big bags prior to moving to Britain for a primitive share-shaving experiment and labelling all the inhabitants so that they should not be laid low on arrival. Their problem: what to label the miller.

"I know!" said someone. "Let's call him Miller!"

Now, 1,300 years later, everyone in our society can own their own surname except the very rich indeed, who can only afford titles, and technology has come so far that you can open an ordinary-looking book and find Jonathan Miller's nose popping out at you.

Why have we got noses?

What would happen if we breathed in all the time and never breathed out?

Why isn't there a Sir Peter Hall pop-up?

The secret, perhaps, lies in Jonathan Miller's Diaries.

"Jan 19. I have been asked to produce another 49 operas for television. God, how I hate television. I will do just these 49 operas and then go back to life as an ordinary GP, with just one hand-held camera and a sound recordist. Who knows - perhaps one day Peter Hall will come in complaining of a runny nose?"

"Jan 20. My hands have received a very lucrative TV offer. They have been asked to demonstrate the history of theatre today. On the other hand, the rest of me will not be interested. Well, how I hate television. Try to do better tomorrow."

In 1973 the building that we now call Peter Hall was opened on the South Bank, and Jonathan Miller resigned the next day. He immediately set to work on his great opus, a pop-up history of the world with special reference to the spleen.

The part of the appendix was played by Derek Jacobi and the part of the sexy shoulders by Helen Mirren. Jonathan Miller's ears were played by himself, and even *The Lancet* was moved to comment that Shakespeare himself would have approved. Shakespeare's diaries, however, tell a different story.

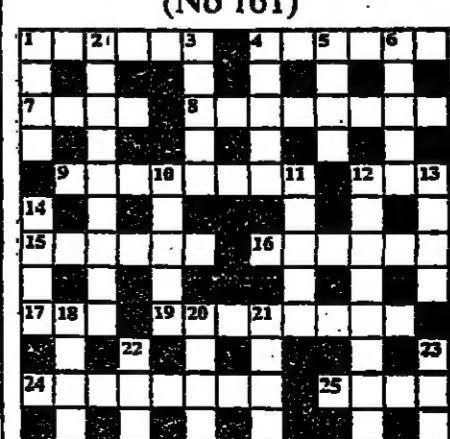
"Jan 19. A fair commission to compose 49 plays for ye Globe. God, how I hate ye drama! And yet Godde knowes I need the money. Only these 49 pieces then, and perchance thereafter may I retire to practise medicine."

"Jan 20. There cometh one to propose a mad plane, namely, that I do set down a pop-up history of the body. Well, so I may. And yet it may still prove naught but a joke by Peter Hall, whom I do mistrust full heartily."

"Jan 21. This morn have I churned out three tragicomedies. The morrow I must do full better. Rain, fog and pestilence."

Now, 380 years later, Jonathan Miller will be telling you in *The Times* next week how to make your own pop-up books, produce your own Shakespeare plays, and get those nasty stains off your duvet and hose. The week after that he will be going back to work as a male nurse. Don't forget - only in *The Times*, the Pop-up World of Jonathan Miller!

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 161)



ACROSS

- 1 Quasi stellar radio source (6)
- 4 Political revolt (6)
- 7 Restless desire (4)
- 8 Train passageway (8)
- 9 Riding breeches (8)
- 12 Loft ball (3)
- 15 Harass (6)
- 16 Lots (6)
- 17 Hive insect (3)
- 21 In these times (8)
- 24 Pharisee's opponent (8)
- 25 Culminating point (4)
- 26 Superficial layer (6)
- 27 Young cat (6)

DOWN

- 1 Witty saying (4)
- 2 Religious reclusive (9)
- 3 Restate points (5)
- 4 Peeler (5)
- 5 Taunt (4)
- 6 Australian hen (5)
- 7 Shelter (5)
- 8 Firmly substantial (5)
- 10 Beach sail boat (4,5)
- 13 Spooled toy (2,2)
- 14 Crusty sore (4)
- 18 Fill with pride (5)
- 20 Pound note (5)
- 21 Oversmart man (5)
- 22 Brim (4)
- 23 Not fat (4)

SOLUTION TO No 160

ACROSS

- Seniors
- S Nape
- 8 Pedal
- 9 Entitle
- Serenade
- 13 Guan
- 15 Spadeface
- 18 Doxy
- 19 Farflung
- 22 Staring
- 23 Not on
- 34 Okra
- 25 Stools

DOWN

- Elder
- Oil
- Aberdeen
- Angus
- NATO
- Potluck
- Spasm
- Elms
- 12 Nest
- 14 Wolf
- 15 Six pack
- 16 Odds
- 17 Agony
- 26 Until
- 21 Diva
- 23 NCO

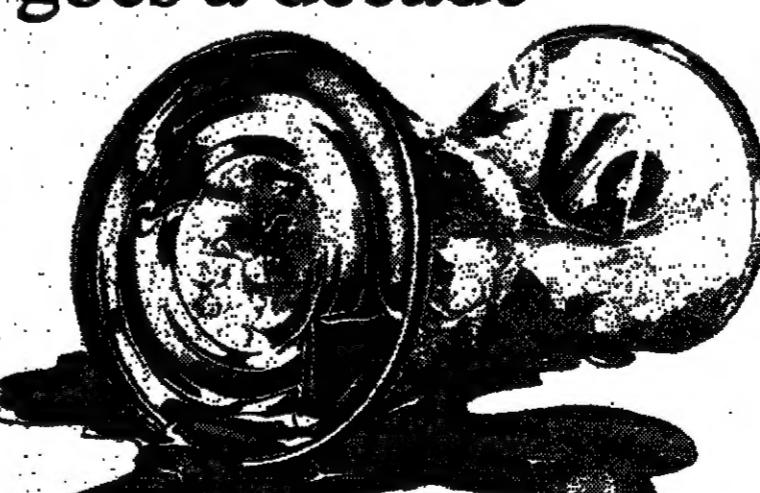
Pop goes a decade

Pop art
Pop was the first "galleried" art form in which America led the world. It might have been named by an English critic, Lawrence Alloway, and pioneered by an English artist, Richard Hamilton, but America was where the raw materials of inspiration lay. Michelangelo found his in the sculpture of ancient Italy. In the early 1960s the pop artists found theirs in the junk culture of modern America. The true pop artists revelled in the commercial products they depicted - or they depicted traditional subjects in a commercial way.

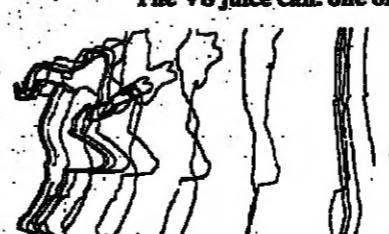
In 1970 Motif Editions, London, issued a series of four posters by Michael English called "The Rubbish Prints". One was of a crumpled V-8 juice can; the others showed a ketchup bottle, a Coke bottle top, and a squashed tube of SR toothpaste. Here, then, was a message of the mess-age. The rubbish that did not get into architect-designed bins bias had its own intrinsic qualities. Pop had no ideals. It did not moralize.

The genesis of Cubism took place well before the First World War, but Cubism was not domesticated, was not absorbed into the decorative arts, until the 1920s. Similarly, pop art, which had its great age in the 1960s, only became part of the vocabulary of design in the late 1970s. By the 1970s it was a major force in the decorative arts. It popularized the idea of "multiples" - not only the repetition of a single image many times in a single work, but also in posters which democratized the artist's original concept. And it affected furniture design, such as Rupert Oliver's spinner seat and nut table at the 1971 International Engineering Exhibition, moulded from high-density polyurethane foam; or the American "spreadable" which gave a boy's bed the appearance of a sports car.

Cybernetics
The exhibition Cybernetic Serendipity, organized by Jasia Reichardt at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, in 1968, showed some of the possibilities of a relationship between art and computers. Could they become more sophisticated than endearingly humanoid robots in a space movie? This 1968 ICA show suggested the possibility of computer-aided design. The graphic display terminal was a



The V8 juice can: one of "The Rubbish Prints"



"powerful and compact information processor, tailored to communicate with the designer in the medium he best understands - visual images."

There was some direct spin-offs from the exhibition in art, notably a limited set of lithographs issued by Motif Editions, of images made by computers. People began to talk about computer graphics as though this was the way ahead for art. The Korean artist Nam June Paik boldly asserted that "the cathode ray will one day replace canvas".

Nostalgia
The Art Nouveau revival was virtually over by 1970, but the Art Deco revival was moving into top gear. In 1971 a big Deco exhibition was staged at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minnesota. Films such as *Bonnie and Clyde*,

Malcolm Brown

ALFA 33

More smiles than a Cavalier!

Take a 24 hour test drive in the new Alfa 33 and prove it for yourself!

I would like to test drive the exciting new Alfa 33 for 24 hours. I am over 21 years of age, have a car under 4 years old and a current driving licence. I am definitely not in the market for an ordinary boring five seater hatchback.

NAME _____

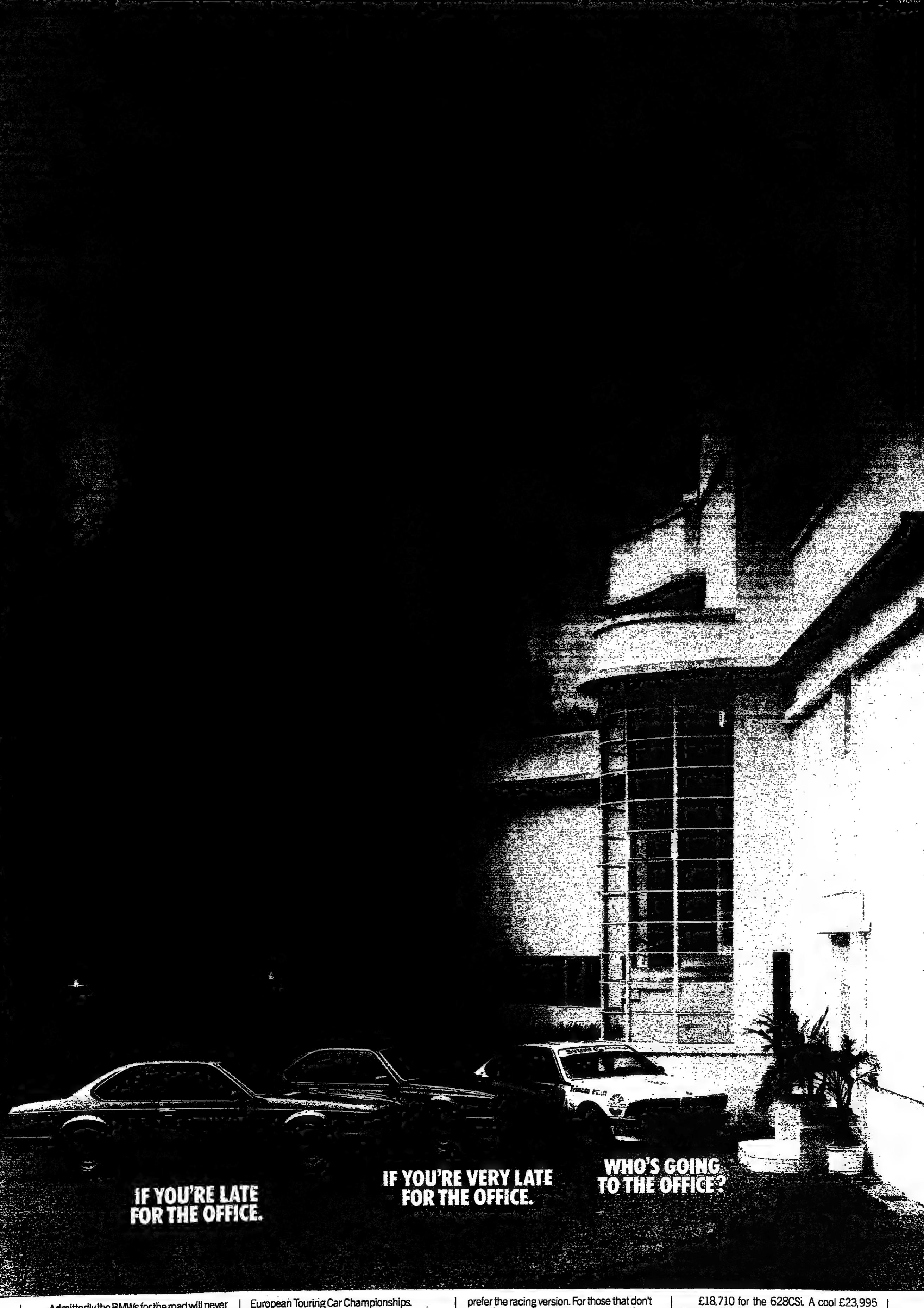
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PRESENT CAR _____

Send this coupon in an envelope marked FREIGHTS 34, 19 Berkeley Street, London W1E 7QZ or ring 01-409 1223 now.

The Alfa 33 range from £5,690, excluding delivery & number plates.

Alfa Romeo



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FOR THE OFFICE.**

**IF YOU'RE VERY LATE
FOR THE OFFICE.**

**WHO'S GOING
TO THE OFFICE?**

Admittedly the BMWs for the road will never be quite as fast as a BMW for the track.

Which is not to say they're exactly slow. The 628CSi on the left, for example, is capable of 131 mph – aided by the same engine that brought victory to a BMW driver in last year's

European Touring Car Championships.

Should you want something livelier still, consider the 635CSI in the middle. It reaches 60 mph in 6.9 seconds, and will cruise on effortlessly up to 142 mph.

If you happen to own a racetrack you might

prefer the racing version. For those that don't the 635CSI offers a minor compensation: a surprisingly frugal 24.7 mpg overall.

And how much do you pay for this rare combination of performance, economy and (let's be honest) sheer unashamed luxury?

£18,710 for the 628CSi. A cool £23,995 for the 635CSI. And sorry, but for those looking to buy the complete set, the racing car is not for sale.



THE ULTIMATE DRIVING MACHINE

FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR THE 635CSi FOUR SPEED AUTOMATIC, URBAN 19.1 MPG (14.8L/100KM), 55 MPH+ 41.5 MPG (6.8L/100KM), 75 MPH 32.5 MPG (8.7L/100KM). PERFORMANCE FIGURES SOURCE: MOTOR/MANUFACTURER. OVERALL FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES SOURCE: D. CARTER, MOTORING JOURNALIST. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. INCLUDE CAR TAX AND VAT BUT NOT DELIVERY OR NUMBER PLATES. INCLUSIVE DELIVERY CHARGE INCORPORATING BMW EMERGENCY SERVICE AND INITIAL SERVICES. £185 + VAT FOR A BMW 6 SERIES INFORMATION FILE, PLEASE WRITE TO: BMW INFORMATION SERVICE, PO BOX 46, HOUNSFIELD, MIDDLESEX OR TELEPHONE 0897 6665 (LITERATURE REQUESTS ONLY). FOR TAX FREE SALES: 56 PARK LANE, LONDON W1, TELEPHONE 01-529 9277.



THE TIMES DIARY

Growing pains

When the "Plant a Tree in '73" campaign was launched in an attempt to repair the ravages of Dutch elm disease, cynical nurserymen and landscape architects went around humoring a subversive little smug: "Plant a tree in '73, plant some more in '74; how many alive in '75?" The answer in '83 is half at best, and a third at worst, of the 100 million trees planted annually, according to Cedric Linsley of the Landscape Institute.

At £1 a tree, the investment is staggering, as is the loss. Many have succumbed to drought says Linsley, especially during the three very hot summers since Plant a Tree started. Trees in towns and cities tend to fare better because the local authorities look after them to some extent; the classic failures are "the well-meaning amenity bodies who go out to the country on a Saturday morning, drop them in with a silver spade, and then walk away".

Recent Forestry Commission figures suggest that as many as 10 per cent of all plants, in any case, are already desiccated and effectively doomed when they arrive on site. "What we are talking about in tree terms," says Linsley sagely, "is stress".

Bonny's bouquet

An anonymous Swiss hopes to sell a half-bottle of South African wine for more than £300 at Sotheby's today. It is a Great Constantia of 1795, bought in a sale of items from the cellar of the Duke of Northumberland at Alnwick about 10 years ago. A bottle is said to have got through a dozen bottles of the stuff a monarch in exile. The Great Constantia used to grace the tables of the best Georgian households in this country; according to *Times* wine writer June MacQuinn, it is still "bonny" even at that advanced age, treacly in colour with an amazingly strong grapey Muscat.

ES has just announced a world premier recording of a Schubert moment: 45 bars of music, not all it scored. Despite its brevity, the music evokes a strangely haunting atmosphere. CBS insists.

Running buffet

The story of the Sharrow Bay Hotel in Penrith in Cumbria seems to be rather fascinating, says the English Tourist Board. "From the raw ingredients of a bicycle, assorted kitchen cutlery and a red sorbet called Peggy, Francis Coulson has put up a superb standard of cuisine. Sounds yummy.



"Neville was so excited he almost woke up."

Where's the Rub?

The next issue of the *Spectator* is to carry a note on its letters page differentiating between Michael Rubinstein, whose letter in this week's issue deplores the "continuing failure" of all concerned in the *Literary Review's* publication of that article by Roald Dahl "to recognize their lapse in judgment, still less show remorse about the offence it caused", and Michael Rubinstein, legal adviser to the *Literary Review*. Both Rubinstens are genuine; the note was requested by Rubinstein-with-and-without Alexander Chancellor, the editor, agreed. "The ramifications of this thing seem to be absolutely endless", sighs Chancellor weary. What spirit of mischief might have prompted Rubinstein-with-an-to write the letter is a matter for speculation.

Unthink tank

The peace-loving London Borough of Lewisham plans to dismantle a tank-shaped climbing frame in a playground in Folkestone Gardens, New Cross, in the hope that local juveniles will study war no more if they are given a more conventional structure to climb upon. Counter-revolutionary Tories are muttering that it would cost less to convert the thing to a bulldozer shape, and, in any case, there is at least one Conservative borough prepared to keep the tank as it is.

The Duke of Edinburgh has written to Noboru Hamada, president of the Japan Marine Machinery Development Association, requesting a briefing on Japanese techniques for cutting fuel costs by reintroducing the use of sail in modern shipping. Computer-assisted sails are already setting the knots-per-gallon averages of coastal ore-carriers and tankers in the Far East. The Palace was not amused by my suggestion that the royal yacht Britannia might be on the verge of sprouting such rigs. Prince Philip's letter arises only from "a general interest" in such matters, it maintains. PHS

So easy to stop the Labour levy

by Michael Ivens

Public expressions of guilt by trade union officials are rare. It is no coincidence that they occur tomorrow, just as the TUC is to meet Mr Norman Tebbit to discuss the political levy. Trade union officials are almost excessively prepared to confess that they have been mishandling the levy.

Since 1947, union members in England, Scotland and Wales have had to opt out rather than opt in to a paying political levy to the Labour Party. Now Mr Tebbit is considering changing the law and he is examining acting against employers who deduct the political levy from unionists' pay packets. Trade union leaders are preparing a fresh approach to Mr Tebbit. "We have sinned in the past" will be the gambit. "We have not always been as efficient as we should be in showing workers that they have a right to opt out. Give us a chance and we will improve. But don't legislate."

The present position of trade unionists on the political levy can be summed up by a survey carried out by National Opinion Polls for Aims of Industry. It showed that approximately 40 per cent of non-Labour voters pay the Labour levy - through ignorance, fear and apathy. Another 25 per cent don't know whether or not they pay it. A mere 24 per cent prefer the opting-out system.

Some trade unions, of course, are better than others in making it easy for their members to opt out. Mr Clive Jenkins' ASTMS allows 70 per cent to opt out - and deserves credit for it. But how do we account for the National Union of Dyers,

Bleachers and Textile Workers getting 100 per cent of contributors to the political fund in 1979?

Or in 1981 the TGWU achieving 98 per cent, the NUR 97 per cent and Aslef 94 per cent? As Labour got less than half of the trade union vote, it hardly comes from political conviction!

There is a strong case, then, for changing from opting out to indicating positively your support for Labour by opting in. But Mr Tebbit would be mistaken if he thought that by changing the law in this way, he would stop the situation whereby non-Labour trade unionists find themselves being used as part of a block vote to elect Labour leaders and to create Labour policies.

These days many employers collect the union dues under so-called "sweatheart" agreements with unions. Very often the union will ask the employer to collect the political levy as well.

"But how do we know which employees have opted out?", will be the personnel officer's question. "Just collect the lot", is the common reply. And if the personnel man asks how the non-Labour supporters are to get their money back, the reply is often: "Just send them along to us."

How all this works in practice can be seen from the case of the brave Mr Jack Clemison who, year in, year out, asked the Post Office and Engineering Union for the political levy which the Post Office had knocked off his wages. Mr

Clemison also handed opting out forms to his colleagues - and was threatened that he would lose his job by trade union representatives. Finally, after 12 years, Mr Clemison took his case to the certification officer.

That gentleman produced a curious ruling. The he said, had to pay yearly in advance for the money deducted by the Post Office from Mr Clemison's wages. Not surprisingly the ruling was overturned on appeal.

Trade unions and guilty employers sometimes argue that in these days of the computer, it is too expensive or difficult to take into account political levy exceptions. The opposite is the case. Computers are magnificently flexible and employers make all kinds of exceptions in pay, pensions, invoices, special rates and com-

missions. Many company chairmen are ignorant of the fact that many of their employees are being forced to pay the levy - even though they have opted out. They look rather pink when they discover it.

The solution is simple. The law should make it illegal for employers to deduct the levy if trade unionists have stated they do not want to pay it. And Mr Tebbit should deal with the loophole in the 1913 Act which allows the levy to be collected from everyone if discrimination presents severe difficulties. That clause is used as an excuse by employers and trade unions and should be deleted.

The author is director of Aims of Industry.

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Two months after martial law's end, Roger Boyes assesses the army's new role

Poland's army: still no political retreat

Warsaw

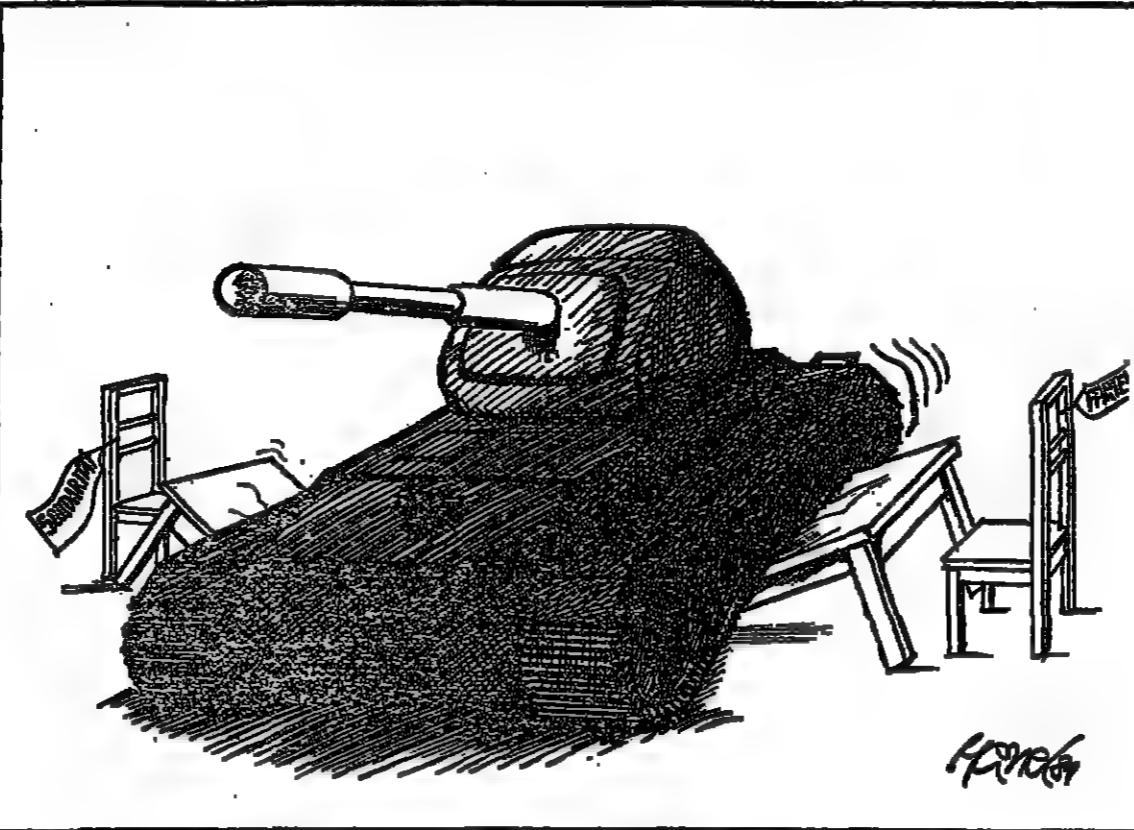
In the gloom and muggy warmth of a Warsaw underpass, near the flower-sellers and the wizened women offering strings of garlic, an accordion-wielding ex-soldier plays day in, day out an old partisan lament: "The willows weep, the girl friend cries, her eyes wet with tears when she sees the hard, hard fate of the soldier." The zloty notes accumulate in his old cloth cap, for the popular sentiment is strong. Even after 19 months of less-than-plesant martial law, soldiers are an object of respect.

Very soon, probably in a matter of weeks, General Jaruzelski, the country's leader, is expected to resign as Minister of Defence, a post he has held for 15 years, thus yielding his direct control of an institution that evokes simple patriotic emotions but complex political thoughts. The declaration of martial law in December 1981, the creation of a ruling military council, the soldiers on the streets, the armoured personnel carriers, these seemed at the time like the trappings of a coup d'état, a seizure of power. In fact, it rapidly emerged that the army was being used as a mechanism of change from one discredited governing team to another that had at least the authority to carry out its decisions.

Thousands of party apparatchiks were dislodged. The role of the army was to control the pace of change so that it would not seem threatening, to ensure that the direction of those changes did not undermine the Communist Party even further and to lend authority - without physically participating - to the efforts of the internal security forces in stamping out the Solidarity opposition. For the army to have achieved these unpopular tasks without forfeiting popularity showed great political skill.

But now two months have gone by since the lifting of martial law and it is becoming clear that the army is not just an instrument of transition. It has fulfilled its national task, but not its party political one. Although General Jaruzelski declared that the army would now withdraw to the "second line", senior officers are well entrenched in the party and the state administrations.

This raises some important questions about the significance of armies in communist societies, when does an army's professional commitment to national security



Dialogue ended

reproduced from the *Kölner Stadtzeitung*

become a commitment to national "salvation"? When is it legitimate for an army to intervene politically - ... former commissars should maintain permanent contact at offices or factories where they have worked?

This is the new military role in Poland: the soldier is a political activist, for only the army can boast the monolithic party structure that should (in the ideal Marxist world) be the case throughout Polish political society. That means that the army believes that its job is to regenerate socialism in Poland by restoring effective government.

Sitting at their desks, unflurried by the ending of martial law, three generals hold down crucial ministerial posts - the Interior Ministry (Czeslaw Kiszczak), Local Administration (Wlodzimierz Oliwa) and Mining (Czeslaw Pietrowski). Several generals are also deputy ministers, including the deputy minister of education. The head of the anti-corruption unit is General Tadeusz Hupalski. Army officers serve as provincial governors in three Baltic ports (including Gdańsk). In Silesia (Katowice), in central Poland (in four towns), as mayor of Warsaw, as first party secretary of Poznan, as chairman of local people's councils in several cities.

And, perhaps even most importantly, army officers control two of the most decisive sections of the Communist Party central committee - the personnel department and international relations. About 15 per cent of the party administration is believed to be run by officers. None of this means that the army has ousted the party; rather, one of the most active and trustworthy parts of the party has taken up a stronger leadership role. Army

participation in the Party may not make communism more popular but it should make it more effective.

The problems are large, but they lurk, like icebergs, scarcely visible on the surface. First, the army by politicizing itself is risking not only an ultimate loss of prestige but also the reproduction of party factionalism that plagues the party at large. It is only natural that the general running the administration of a central Polish town will disagree with the general who is running Gdańsk when it comes to the allocation of scarce funds. It is only natural that, confronted with political realities, some officers will become enamoured of reform while others will be convinced of its hopelessness. These differences are not fatal, but they will undermine the political homogeneity that allowed the army to declare martial law in the first place.

Second, the church is resisting the idea that the army should become a kind of Marxist finishing school and has instructed priests to strengthen their links with conscripts. Finally, the pull of the Polish Army's other mission - to defend the country against outside attack - will become stronger, especially if the West stations new missiles in Europe. The emphasis on defence may well lead to a redefinition of the army's political role. The officers involved in running the country at the moment are mainly from a political background - invariably Soviet-trained at staff college level - and are not really needed back at the barracks. But if the Warsaw Pact is to make credible its threat to reply to new US missiles with appropriate military measures, then it must demonstrate that its warlords are not entirely desk-bound.

Now it is Conner, unaccompanied by any member of the NYYC, who walked alone through the car park, through the milling streets of hard-luck, cries to the Armoury, where he faced the press, knowing he had blown a winning position.

"I'd like to stay for an hour of questions", he said when paying tribute to Australia II. But when a mass of cameras, television and press men is witnessing a man with tears swelling his eyes as he says the United States has no cause to be ashamed of their performance, they do not press him with questions. They just let him put on his straw hat, accept a thin cheer, and disappear back into the bedlam outside.

The NYYC might have supported the man who surrendered its heritage, but seemingly did not have the guts. It was left to syndicate chairman Ed du Moulin to appear later and say Conner was still the best helmsman. But the truth was he just did not have the best boat, and after months of relentless pressure, the man who never allowed a mistake had made a monumental blunder.

Back in New York, where the club was formed in 1844, and settled into its present mansion in 1901, those members not in Newport had been listening to a radio commentary in

the bar with its red leather chairs and portraits of boats and skippers of long ago. The club has no television; it is that kind of club. No one knows what they thought as Liberty's lead disappeared by the start of the final leg.

Richard Thursty, a NYYC member, has said: "There won't be more than a couple of days

mourning before we start thinking about how to win the damned thing back." But now it is free to any club and syndicate in the US, never mind the rest of the world, to bid independently. The exclusiveness which the NYYC enjoyed for so long finally turned against it. Never was a US 12-metre permitted to compete against a foreign boat outside the America's Cup; so they never knew, for example, what all the six foreign challengers learnt that Australia II's tall, slim rudder was also part of her tacking ability, and they copied it.

When Conner finally got into the water against Lexcen's Lightning, as it is known, he was raw to the exceptional qualities which Victory '83 and the others had long since discovered. Ultimately, the narrowest but for all that colossal margin, the man who gave every command on his boat, made the singular error which neutralized the earlier ones by Bertrand. It was the right result.

David Miller

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Here's health, the French way

Eighteen months ago I had to go into hospital for a minor operation. First

I was inspected by a consultant who discussed the nature of my responsibilities at the Treasury and then handed me over to two young housemen. One examined me, the other took notes. Eventually the consultant returned, listened gravely, it certainly isn't now. We should not be inhibited from learning from the experience of our neighbours.

I went into hospital - as an NHS patient, I hastily add - for three days. The treatment was excellent and entirely successful. My room was swept and garnished about half a dozen times a day; and at any time of the day, there seemed to be a squad of half a dozen nurses sitting around with nothing very obvious to do.

So I find it difficult to swallow the reports of the desperation being perpetrated on the NHS by blind-hearted Norman Fowler.

Certainly cuts such as the closure of 20 per cent of the beds of the Department of Paediatrics at Guy's should be avoided, but such issues skirt the problem of over-manning in the Health Service. Between 1979 and 1982, the DHSS recently told us, the number of doctors and dentists on its payroll rose by more than 2,000, or 6 per cent. The number of nurses and midwives rose by 40,000, almost 11 per cent. "Administrative and clerical staff" increased by almost 6,000 and "professional and technical" by 7,000 - all of 12 per cent.

In total, the NHS payroll grew by 55,000. Yet hospital waiting lists have not noticeably shortened, nor has there been any noticeable increase in the number of patients treated. Is it really the case that 8,000 out of a total of 800,000 - just one for every extra seven recruited between 1979 and 1982 - cannot be found who are surplus to requirements?

It is true that an aging population and a longer life expectancy make extra demands on the NHS. It is also true that more people are needed, from GPs to cleaners, to provide the same level of service as the hours of work have shrunk. But to accuse a government which has doubled cash expenditure on health care and consciously increased the proportion of the nation's product going to the NHS of a "conspiracy" to force

Instead of the service being either free at point of use, or subject to charges (for prescriptions, dental care, etc) unrelated to costs, as it is on this side of the Channel, the user is billed and has to pay and subsequently reclaim.

There are plenty of pitfalls: administrative costs are higher, since the sheep who can be expected to meet the initial charge until they can reclaim it have to be sorted from the goats who cannot. But the introduction of a comprehensive cash nexus induces both a consciousness of cost and a propensity to shop around for best value - something which is almost wholly absent from our system.

At any rate, we should not be browbeaten into assuming that all the NHS needs is more cash. Still less should we treat pressures for marginal economies in manpower as evidence of a betrayal of commitments to the NHS.

The author was Economic Secretary to the Treasury in Mrs Thatcher's last government.

James Curran

Puppet state and a Westminster MP

Sir Peter Emery, MP for Honiton, who was knighted for distinguished political services last year, has pursued a career not entirely free of controversy. He was in effect rapped over the knuckles by the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee in 1980 for being a director of a company that made an excessive profit from managing the publicly funded Underwater Training Centre in Scotland. But Sir Peter Emery vehemently denies that his company made too much money out of the taxpayer (even after the committee reinvestigated the matter at his request and again found against him).

There is nothing particularly unusual in MPs having business interests and nothing particularly unusual about work in public relations. Many MPs relate, promote, advertise and oil wheels. But Sir Peter Emery's latest form of political entrepreneurship requires examination. His company, Shenley Trust Services, is acting as a public relations agency for Bophuthatswana, a so-called independent black state in South Africa. Sir Peter has himself been introducing people from Bophuthatswana to influential politicians and diplomats. Bophuthatswana House, the country's official residence which opened with a great fanfare last year in Holland Park, is owned by a company with a registered address at Sir Peter Emery's Sackville Street offices.

At first sight, Bophuthatswana would seem a laudable as well as a profitable cause to promote. Its record on human rights, unlike that of the other Bantustans, is good. Its government was democratically elected, albeit on a registered franchise of about 270,000 in a country that is officially the homeland of 2,700,000 people. Its 102-seat national assembly has only a minority of seats reserved for nominated chiefs.

But Bophuthatswana, like the other Bantustans, is the means by which the South African government legitimates white dominion. The African majority is denied political, property and full residential rights on the grounds that it belongs to Bantustans, even though many have never set foot in them. By this simple legal fiction, blacks accounting for 75 per cent of the population are excluded from ownership of 86 per cent of the land in South Africa, incorporating virtually all parts of the country which have mineral resources, good farming land or expansive economic activity. Black Africans are also denied the right to vote in elections for the South African government or even to belong to a political party which has white members, since their political aspirations should be confined officially to their black "homelands".



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THE REAGAN OFFER

Should President Reagan be rude to the Russians if he is genuinely seeking an agreement on arms control? In his address to the United Nations General Assembly on Monday he made important concessions in an effort to break the stalemate at the Geneva talks on Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF), but also questioned Soviet good faith and criticized the record of the USSR in international affairs. The initial response from Moscow does not augur well for progress at Geneva; Tass counterattacked by accusing Mr Reagan of using "gross distortions of generally known facts, demagogery, disinformation, and blatant lies."

Yet the balance of his speech was about right. The proposals on arms control were revealed to Soviet negotiators at Geneva the previous week, rather than first announced on a public occasion for maximum propaganda advantage, as had been President Andropov's practice. The criticisms of the USSR were relatively muted, and were certainly just. Unlike the Soviet leader, President Reagan has to take account of public opinion in the Nato democracies, and explain why it is so difficult to achieve arms limitations clearly of benefit to the whole world.

President Reagan has made three proposals which go some way to meeting Soviet demands at the INF talks. First, the US would not seek to match in western Europe the total number of warheads deployed by the USSR in its European and Asian territories, but would maintain equal numbers on a global basis.

thus achieving a balance at a level lower than the numbers of land-based weapons of intermediate range now possessed by the USSR.

This would mean that Moscow would reduce the warheads targeted on western Europe while fewer US weapons would be required when deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles begins in December.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, has the opportunity during his visit to China to explain the thinking behind the new proposals to his hosts who, faced with 108 of the triple warhead SS20 missiles across their northern border, clearly prefer the destruction of the Soviet weapons envisaged in President Reagan's initial "zero option". For China and Japan, an arms limitation which leaves these Soviet weapons on site in Asia cannot be satisfactory, and since they are highly mobile and could be redeployed to threaten Western Europe, it is certainly vital that Washington retains the right to deploy "elsewhere" the missiles within the global balance not deployed in Europe.

The second concession – agreeing to include medium range bomber forces – will greatly complicate the work of the INF negotiators, but has long been demanded by Moscow which claims that when aircraft are included a balance already exists without the cruise and Pershing II missiles. This is based on a distortion of the figures, however, which brings in British and French deterrents and even includes aircraft stationed in the USA with shorter range than Soviet bombers

excluded from Moscow's calculations. Counting all medium range weapons and aircraft, the Warsaw Pact forces actually have four times the NATO figures.

The third proposal should certainly be welcomed by Moscow, since it allows for the reduction of Pershing II numbers to preserve the one-to-five ratio with cruise missiles should an agreement to lower the overall balance be achieved. The faster Pershings are regarded by USSR as the greater threat, taking only eight minutes from their West German bases to reach targets in the USSR.

There is enough evidence of flexibility and compromise in these proposals to encourage a more constructive Soviet stance at Geneva. But President Reagan correctly emphasized the necessity of effective verification and pointed out the need for the USSR to improve its very suspect record in observing the international agreements already negotiated such as the Helsinki Final Act, the Convention on Biological Weapons, and earlier arms limitation treaties. He was not being rude to the Russians in saying that the tragedy of the Korean airliner showed how different is the Kremlin's attitude to truth and international cooperation. This is an unfortunate fact of life which the western public must bear in mind when demanding progress at Geneva. President Reagan's proposals, together with the imminent deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles, place the onus firmly on the Soviet leaders to show a similar willingness to reach agreement.

nation of a record of failure, but a sudden and spectacular reverse in an area where things were going fairly well.

The time for a Dugdale type of resignation will come, if at all, when Sir James Hennessy has made his report. It may then be possible to see how far the disaster was due to the negligence or criminality of individuals, and how far to errors of policy or laxity in their execution. In measuring the obligations of political honour against those conclusions it will be fair to remember that we are not talking about Whitehall in conditions of external peace and civil harmony. The inveterate and bloodstained enemies of the state who are active in Northern Ireland have the power to inflict occasional spectacular coups de main in the face even of vigilance.

This is not the occasion for a Carrington type of resignation. The Government's general ability to manage the affairs of Northern Ireland is not seriously impaired by the incident (and the Provos were handed the political scalp of a Secretary of State, they would have even more to crow about). Moreover the setback occurs in the field of internal security, where there has been steady and marked improvement under the present administration in Northern Ireland. If this were a resigning matter – and it is our view that it is not, subject to the finding of the inquiry – it would implicate the Secretary of State and not simply one of his parliamentary under-secretaries. The political administration at Stormont is compact. Security policy is at the heart of it, and the Maze is near the heart of security policy. Responsibility goes right to the top.

NOT YET A RESIGNING MATTER

The twenty-one republican prisoners still at large from the break-out at the Maze prison on Sunday will not, even if they remain at liberty, have the same operational value for the Provisional IRA as they had before they were arrested, convicted and imprisoned. That value, denominated in murders and explosions, was very high in the case of some of them. But they are now marked down by the police forces of both parts of Ireland. If they show themselves they risk recapture. They are too hot a property for most missions. Their escape may not do much directly to reinforce the IRA's ability to sustain the commission of crimes that it calls war.

However that may be, there is no mistaking the political significance of the escape. It was one of those deeds of daring that are the very stuff of the Irish republican tradition of armed resistance. The Provos triumphantly cry "Colditz", and they must be allowed the comparison. It is the perfect propaganda antidote to the procession of informants that have shaken the organization's morale. It is deeply disheartening to the security forces in Northern Ireland, especially the units which laboured to bring these men to justice in the first place. It does not leave unscathed those who carry political responsibility in the province.

From the point of view of authority the misadventure is so gross and notorious as to bring up the question of political resignation, the demand for which has been heard both in

SAILING, SAILING

Much of the fascination of the America's Cup has derived from the stubborn brilliancy with which the Americans defended it for 132 years. The desire to be the first to break the spell brought rich men, superb yachts and the world's best helmsmen to Newport time after time. One by one they lost, and each time they did so the fascination grew.

Now the Australians have won at last, after many attempts, and the spell is broken. Skilled sailors though they are, they won primarily on the drawing board and in the Dutch testing tank, for they had a markedly faster boat. The Americans, who probably had the edge as sailors, were out-designed rather than out-sailed, and they nearly won the last race.

The Americans' secret lay not just in the mysterious winged keel but in the whole design around it which enabled them to make a light boat without loss of stability. Their victory is no less praiseworthy for that. The complex formulae of the twelve-metre class challenges the designer as much as the helmsman. The Australians took up the challenge and simply did a better job than anyone else. They well deserve their victory; the Americans were somewhat ill-mannered to object as vociferously as they did. As for the British, sadness that their magnificent effort was not quite

sufficient should not stifle praise for the Australians.

Of the Americans' behaviour it can perhaps be said in mitigation that as a nation they would not be where they are in the world today if they did not attach so much importance to winning. But this will make the loss even harder for them. In the way that symbolism sometimes becomes attached to matters of only marginal relevance, Americans may see the loss of the cup as further confirmation of their fears that they are losing their ability to hold the outer frontiers of technological innovation. Some may even see it as part of a wider loss of predominance.

Doubtless the Americans will fight back. They will fight on the computers and the drawing boards. They will fight in the testing tanks and finally on the water. But will other nations fight too? Will the magic hold? Obviously it will be somewhat reduced. No one can equal the Australians' feat unless the cup is held in Perth for another 132 years. Yet something will surely survive.

The America's Cup is rightly regarded as the Everest of yachting, a unique event in the rarified upper atmosphere of sailing. The boats are magnificent thoroughbreds of astonishing beauty, almost archetypal yachts, so finely constructed for

one purpose that they are virtually useless for anything else unless extensively modified. The races themselves are strange, lonely elegant duels between two yachts only, far out to sea, as distant from the multiple skirmishing of most yacht racing as is a modern lightweight ascent of Everest from a crowded athletics meeting.

And the sport is very much in tune with the age. It involves modern technology, yet it produces no pollution and little noise (the spectator fleet is another matter, of course).

It does no damage. It requires no mastery of nature but subtle and sensitive exploration of how to extract the most power from wind and water. The best helmsmen are those who can find and hold that thin line of balance along which the elements seem to join in driving the boat forward. The America's Cup will continue to represent one of the highest tests of their skill.

Obviously there are hundreds of socially more useful ways of spending money, but once apply utilitarian criteria to the pursuit of dreams and there is no stopping. Sailing is no more useless than football or ballet, and pound for pound it may well create as many jobs and as much happiness. So may the pursuit of the America's Cup continue, the magic survive, and the next round be friendlier.

Chayli 15

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Raising revenues of debtor countries

From Sir William Lithgow

Sir, Understanding the world banking crisis requires a little reflection. In 1974, after adjustment for inflation, the average cost of sovereign dollar borrowing was about -6% per cent, by 1982 +13% per cent, a crude difference of 20 per cent. Nine years ago surplus oil revenues were flooding the money markets of industrialised countries committed to paying their oil suppliers more, but unwilling to pay their voters less. By last year, however, the Opec countries had become net borrowers.

The third proposal should certainly be welcomed by Moscow, since it allows for the reduction of Pershing II numbers to preserve the one-to-five ratio with cruise missiles should an agreement to lower the overall balance be achieved. The faster Pershings are regarded by USSR as the greater threat, taking only eight minutes from their West German bases to reach targets in the USSR.

Sound money and sound economies cannot be achieved by arbitrary actions. It is little wonder that the United Kingdom has a deficit on trade in manufactures when this new phase of money madness is closing the markets of developing countries.

New initiatives are urgently needed from this side of the Atlantic, from the United Kingdom as a banking and industrial nation. It is in the interests of all that we get our act together and overcome organisational problems that have left the world with too many idle hands and minds and too much poverty.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM LITHGOW,
P O Box 2,
Port Glasgow,
Renfrewshire.
September 26.

Rates reform

From the Chief Executive of Swale Borough Council

Sir, The Government invites views on its White Paper on rates, May 1,

from the inside, add to the admirable comments of your leading article of September 16 and hope to dispel a number of deeply seated misconceptions?

The White Paper starts from the mischievous and misleading premise that "the Government cannot ignore the deep and widespread sense of grievance felt by ratepayers". Having itself failed to reform the rating system the Government then orchestrated a campaign against those who have to operate the present outdated system with the intention of undermining public confidence in local government so as to pick it off like a ripe plum.

The Government claims credit for seeking "to reverse the growth in current expenditure" by "increasing the accountability of local authorities". Accountability is measured locally in votes and expenditure in "needs". Local government does not require a sermon on that. We provide vastly more information on our functions than does central government. It is they, not we, who

so frequently shelter behind the phrase "not in the public interest". All Cabinet papers are secret; all ours are open. Open government? Accountability? I ask you!

The Government go on to claim they "were fully prepared to propose to Parliament the abolition of domestic rates if consultation had revealed broad-based support..." Hambury! If we had to wait for a consensus on such an important matter we are entitled to ask, "Where has leadership gone?"

And what about industrial rates anyway? Local income tax would be an entirely viable alternative to rates, needing only a computer and a programme for its introduction. Doesn't the Government have any proposals? We do.

The White Paper simply will not do it is the Government's job democratically to reform the 200-year-old rating system. It is not their job automatically to substitute their judgement for that of locally elected councillors.

You're faithfully,
HARRY WHITE, Chief Executive,
Swale Borough Council,
Council Offices,
Crown Avenue,
Sittingbourne,
Kent.
September 21.

Worker consultation

From the General Secretary of the International Metalworkers Federation

Sir, I suppose it was a coincidence that immediately preceding a report from 17 leading chairmen of European companies expressing justified concern about the gradual disintegration of the EEC (page 15, September 13), was a letter (page 13) from a British Conservative Euro MP arguing that what has happened to the EEC Vredeling directive over providing information to workers is a good thing.

To recall the arguments over the Vredeling directive, which was aimed at providing employees with increased information rights would be tedious, but no one will deny that the combination of American and European multinationals lobbying power, sided by right-wing Euro MPs such as Mr Spencer, has completely emasculated the original Vredeling proposal.

Now I happen to agree with the worries of Mr Pehr Gyllenhammar, the chairman of Volvo, about the future disintegration of the EEC and the need for urgent steps to reverse this process. But while the European

institutions, under unrelenting pressure from business interests, do all in their power to scupper initiatives aimed at social progress and ignore calls for action to combat unemployment and social efforts at making multinational companies operate under the same rules as national companies, who can blame the mass of West Europe's population, those in and out of work and their families, if they protest in interest in the future of the EEC?

The chairman of ICI, Shell, Philip, Fiat and so on might ask themselves whether their idea of Europe is one which serves only the immediate profitability of their individual companies. If that is the case, and I fear on the evidence of their lobbying over Vredeling it is, then their noble words about European unity will always be confounded by their shortsighted actions.

Sincerely yours,
HERMAN REBHAU,
General Secretary,
International Metalworkers'
Federation
Route des Acacias 54 bis,
CH-1227 Geneva,
Switzerland.
September 16.

Action on abortion

From Dr James Owen Drife

Sir, Ms Nankivell rightly points out (September 21) that the 28-week upper limit on legal termination of pregnancy is out of date and should be reduced, but her suggested limit of 14 weeks is based on a misunderstanding of amniocentesis that may have misled your readers.

Amniocentesis (drawing fluid from the womb) is done around the sixteenth week of pregnancy and is impossible at 12 weeks because the womb is too small. It is carried out to diagnose congenital abnormality, and with spine bifida an answer can be obtained within days of the test. However, in Down's syndrome and other chromosome abnormalities analysis of the fluid takes about three weeks and termination cannot be carried out until the twentieth week of pregnancy, even if no technical or administrative delays occur. Faster methods of making these diagnoses are being examined, but are not yet reliable.

Nevertheless some reduction in the legal limit is possible and desirable, but when abortion was last discussed in Parliament the debate was inconclusive and the status quo was left intact. Doctors have therefore been left with the ethical decisions about late abortion, and it is rarely performed close to the limit set by Parliament.

Recently it has been suggested in your columns (September 20) that ethical decisions in medicine should be made not by doctors but by laymen. Ms Nankivell's letter and Parliament's indecision both indicate to me that this suggestion is impracticable.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES O. DRIFRE,
University of Leicester,
School of Medicine,
Department of Obstetrics and
Gynaecology,
Clinical Sciences Building,
Leicester Royal Infirmary,
PO Box 65,
Leicester.
September 23.

However, we shall achieve nothing without his "damned offices", for it is only by thus realising the value of our land asset that the necessary funds for the new station will ever be forthcoming.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN ETHERINGTON (Project Manager, Liverpool Street Redevelopment),
British Railways Board,
50 Liverpool Street, EC2.
September 14.

Keeping quiet

From Mr Tom Chidley

Sir, At school our music master had a message which he would regularly repeat at his choir: "Don't cough, swallow". Since the season of mists is all but upon us, as the British public remain as phlegmatic as ever, would it not be possible for the managers of our concert halls to have some notices drawn up?

Yours faithfully,
TOM CHIDLEY,
58 Adderley Road,
Harrow Weald,
Middlesex.
September 20.

However, we shall achieve nothing without his "damned offices", for it is only by thus realising the value of our land asset that the necessary funds for the new station will ever be forthcoming.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY SHORT,
Barley Mow,
Kirk Ireton,
Derbyshire.
September 23.

Financing pensions in weak economy

From Mr Nigel Vinson and Mr Philip Chappell

Sir, Lord Byers (September 17) by implication criticises our proposals to give the option for personal and portable pensions – as the self-employed now have – all.

We share his concern to protect what has been done for the welfare of pensioners, but it is indeed the very scale of the success of the measures for which Lord Byers was in part responsible that leads us to the present dilemma – the core issue of how to finance pensions in a weak economy with a growing demographic imbalance.

We do not suggest for one moment that existing pension arrangements have come about for anything but the best possible motives, and for some people these arrangements have proved highly satisfactory. However, for many more who, either optionally or through no fault of their own, have to change jobs the present arrangements are inequitable.

Our proposals did not start from trying to resolve the balance between leavers and stayers but rather because we perceived the lack of personal identification and involvement by the member in the wealth represented by the £120bn of pension fund assets. It happens to be a most timely and beneficial by-product of our proposals that they would, over a period, also solve the early leaver problem.

Unless we begin soon to make a progressive and gradual shift in the property rights to the capital represented by pension funds we shall finish, in as little as 20 years, with a society where virtually everything is owned by the institutions.

History shows that this is undesirable, and unnecessary, because the alternative of personalising that wealth must be so much better for the employee, the company and the nation at large.

We believe that nothing but

benefit would come from people closely relating to the wealth represented by their pension funds and realising how much value they and the company are accumulating together.

An annual declaration of the employee's position, as is already given by a number of leading companies, could do nothing, but good, if only to moderate the excessive expectations of pensioners.

If eventually the rights of early leavers are made equal to those of long stayers then, in logic, if all are treated the same it would not be difficult to optionally administer each pension fund as a unit trust.

This would bring all the motivational benefits of identification with that wealth – individuals are more likely to understand the process of wealth-creation if they own it.

There is nothing mandatory about our proposals; we seek no U-turns but rather progressive voluntary changes within the pensions industry. We hope for minor regulatory alterations to enable ex-employees to transfer their preserved pensions into an approved personal scheme and, indeed, pension administrators should be grateful to get rid of the obligation to track down and pay snippets of monthly pension to ex-employees who left the company some 30 years before.

Overall, our proposals give the chance to be more fair to those who, in our increasingly mobile times



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 27: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips visited Hampshire today. Her Royal Highness travelled to Winchester and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Hampshire (Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Scott).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips subsequently visited Woolverton New Housing Scheme for the Elderly, opened the main building and toured the scheme.

Her Royal Highness was entertained at luncheon on board the Royal Yacht Britannia. Afterwards, Her Royal Highness visited the Lichfield Cathedral School and was present at a reception given by the School and St Giles Hospice.

Princess Alexandra travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight. Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
September 27: The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon visited St Christopher's School and opened the John Weston Smith building to commemorate the School's Centenary, Hampstead, London.

Mrs Euan McCordale was in attendance.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke of Gloucester were represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon

Forthcoming

Marriages

Mr B. J. Dickens
and Mrs L. A. Porter
The engagement is announced between Barnaby, younger son of Mr A. B. Dickens and Mrs A. P. McNeille, and Lucy, younger daughter of Sir Oliver and Lady Miller.

Mr M. A. C. Summerfield
and Miss S. E. Bourchier
The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Sir John and Lady Summerfield of English Point, Grand Cayman, and Susan Elizabeth, daughter of Mr Cecil Bourchier, OBE, of Wokingham, Berkshire, and Mrs Dorothy Bourchier of St Morle Court, Finchley Road, London, NW2.

Mr S. E. Farley
and Miss M. W. H. de Bliecourt
The engagement is announced between Bryan Farley, of Graywood, Haslemere, Surrey, and Marqueta de Bliecourt, of the Hague, The Netherlands.

Mr J. R. Hall
and Miss N. P. Wall
The engagement is announced between Jeremy Richard, son of Mr and Mrs John Hall, of Birkdale, Merseyside, and Marion Park, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Wall, of Atlanta, Georgia.

Mr D. H. Haane
and Mrs C. R. McCay
The engagement is announced between David Hamilton, only son of Mrs M. J. Haane and the late C. Noel Huus, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Penelope Jill, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. L. Benson, of Craven Arms, Shropshire.

Mr J. M. Leach
and Miss J. M. Stanfield
The engagement is announced between Michael, eldest son of the late Mr and Mrs M. Leach, of Abbotts Worthy, Hampshire, and Jessica, daughter of Dr and Mrs A. G. Stanfield, of Wildhill, Herefordshire.

Pakistan and US in bridge lead
From a Bridge Correspondent Stockholm
After four rounds in the first stage of the Bermuda Bowl championship in Stockholm two teams have a clear lead in the race for two places in the semi-finals.

They are US 2, whose team includes two of the reigning world champions, Eric Rodwell and Jeff Meekstroth; and Pakistan, whose team of six took the silver medal in the previous Bermuda Bowl in 1981.

Both began with maximum points in the first two rounds, both scored 19 in the third round.

Bland at the Memorial Service for Mr Samuel Coocdenough which was held in St George's, Hanover Square, London, today.

YORK HOUSE
September 27: The Duke of Kent, as Patron this evening attended a Concert given by the London Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall.

Captain John Stewart was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
September 27: Princess Alexandra this afternoon opened St Giles Hospice at Whittington, Staffordshire and attended a Thanksgiving Service in Lichfield Cathedral.

Afterwards, Her Royal Highness visited the Lichfield Cathedral School and was present at a reception given by the School and St Giles Hospice.

Princess Alexandra travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight. Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

The Queen will open Newham Hospital, St Bartholomew's Church Centre and the Interpretive Centre, Passmore Edwards Museum at East Ham on December 14.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Federation Equestre Internationale, will preside at its general assembly and bureau meetings in Amsterdam between December 4 and 9.

The Hon Mrs Spring gave birth to a daughter in London on Saturday.

A memorial service for Sir Dennis Staley will be held at All Saints church, North Molton, at 2.30 pm on November 11.

Mr J. N. P. Crossley
and Miss A. J. Doble
The engagement is announced between John Nicholas Pieris, elder son of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Crossley, of Broughton Grange, Cumbria, and Halifax, Yorkshire, and Alexandra Julia, daughter of Mrs Jill Doble, of Finchsworth, Ulverston, Cumbria, and the late Mr Rupert Doble.

Marriages
Lord St Helens
and Mrs E. R. Talbot-Smith
The marriage took place in London on September 22 between Lord St Helens and Mrs E. R. Talbot-Smith.

Mr J. Kinnan
and Lady Sophie Peiham
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Peter's Church, Luben Magna. Mr John Kinnan, son of Dr David and Mrs Patricia Kinnan, of Elmstone Hatch, Lincolnshire, and Lady Sophie Peiham, eldest daughter of the Earl and Countess of Yarborough. The Rev Stephen Phillips officiated, assisted by the Rev John Massingberd-Mundy.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Emma Janson-Smith, Fiona Jermans and Alexander Drysdale.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr A. N. Joy
and Miss C. M. Okell
The marriage took place on Saturday, September 24, at St Etheldreda's, Els Place, Holborn, between Mr Andrew Joy, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Joy, and Miss Caroline Okell, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Okell. The Rev Christopher Cunningham officiated, assisted by the Rev Graham Traster.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Sarah Okell, Elizabeth Ramsay and Dr Simon Moore as best man.

A reception was held at the Old Hall, Lincoln's Inn.

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From a Bridge Correspondent Stockholm

and they were separated only in the fourth round when US 2 scored a maximum of 25 against Indonesia while Pakistan scored only 14 against Brazil.

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Science report

Communication by 'mirror' in space

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

Preachers in the southern states of the US could be the first users of a minute "mirror" hovering 100 miles above the surface of the Earth, providing a cheaper alternative to satellite telecommunications.

The innovation stems from research by scientists from the Stanford Research Institute (SRI) in California, headed by Dr Julius Muray, physicist at the institute's engineering science laboratory.

The "mirror", weighing a few grams, is held in position by microwave radiation emitted from special units on the surface of the Earth. It is made of carbon fibres about a twentieth the diameter of a human hair which have been intertwined to give it the proper reflecting characteristics. The carbon has to be treated to prevent oxidation.

The SRI team has completed the first feasibility study and it is convinced that the project is commercially and technically viable. The project has already attracted sponsorship from Electronics, Missiles and Communications of Pennsylvania. That company will be responsible for the commercial exploitation of the SRI breakthrough.

The preachers in the southern states of the US are among those who have inquired about the "mirror's" use. Such a device, if positioned in the centre of the United States, would be able to cover most of the country.

The "mirror" has also attracted inquiries from the Third World, where nations are devoid of reliable and cheap telecommunications. The device, if all promises are fulfilled, would be able to transmit effectively both television and telephony in a radius of about 300 miles around the mirror point.

A row of microwave emitters would be strategically placed on the surface of the Earth and the power focused on one point



Oceans launched: The latest in the Times family of atlases, *The Times Atlas of the Ocean*, in the hands of Mr Barry Winklemann, managing director of Times Books, at its launch yesterday in HQS Wellington on the Thames. He is flanked by Sir Edward Pickering (left), vice-chairman of Times Newspapers, and Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, chairman of the British Maritime League. (Photograph: John Voss)

Birthdays today

Miss Brigitte Bardot, 49; Sir Thomas Barnard, 90; the Duke of Buccleuch, 60; Lord Cockfield, 67; Miss J. M. Drew, 54; Mr H. M. French, 53; Mr David Hyman, 51; the Very Frank Harvey, 53; Sir Trevor Hughes, 58; Mr Jeremy Isaacs, 51; Lord Layton, 71; the Earl of Listowel, 77; Miss Ellen Malcolm, 60; Mr Marcello Mazzatorta, 59; Miss Helen Shapiro, 37; Mr Michael Somes, 66.

Latest appointments

Most recent appointments include: Mr Justice Waite to be President of the Employment Appeal Tribunal in succession to Mr Justice Brown-Wilkinson from November 11. The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Federation Equestre Internationale, will preside at its general assembly and bureau meetings in Amsterdam between December 4 and 9.

The Hon Mrs Spring gave birth to a daughter in London on Saturday.

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realized the potential of the find, and it research conducted with Muray since 1982 further developments have supported his belief.

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The SRI team is assisted by Dr Paul Csoka, a professor from the physics faculty of the University of Oregon, who was instrumental in encouraging SRI to take up the project. The professor had been influenced by work done for the United States Department of Energy in recent years. It was then that Csoka

Luncheons

Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Mayor of Westminster gave a luncheon yesterday in honour of Sir Kenneth Newman, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, and Lady Newman. The guests included:

Mr Alan Stewart, Minister for Industry and Education, Scottish Office, was host at a reception held in Edinburgh Castle on behalf of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Sir Michael MacLennan, and Lord Provost of Dundee, Sir David Wilson.

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Charlton 15

Hopes fly high as the big boys pull out

by Arthur Reed

Britain's regional airports, the traditional loss-makers of the domestic aviation business, look set for a better future as the pattern of air travel within the United Kingdom changes radically.

Two major trends are already having an impact. Deregulatory policies of this and the previous Conservative Governments have resulted in a new generation of small airlines springing up, prepared to operate commuter services to towns and cities where none existed before. These airlines are also filling the vacuum left by British Airways as it has withdrawn from unprofitable routes as part of its retrenchment programme.

Secondly, the two main London airports, Heathrow and Gatwick, continue to move steadily towards saturation, and as the commuter airlines find it increasingly difficult to obtain take-off and landing slots, they are inevitably looking to the regional airports.

Conversations with regional airport managers, however many miles away from the capital, their airports may be, inevitably turn to the subject of the London airports, whose superb technical facilities, and enviable range of air services to points throughout the world act as a magnet for passengers and freight from throughout the British Isles.

Stansted, promoted by both Government and the British Airport Authority as the third London airport, lies virtually empty as the decision of the planning inspector who conducted the 18-month inquiry into its future is awaited. The outcome is of vital interest to the regions, for if a decision to develop it to take up to 15m passengers a year is made, their future growth could be stunted with such a large amount of additional capacity thrown onto the national market.

But if British Airways' hopes for a fifth terminal at Heathrow are realized, with some modest increase in capacity at Stansted, the scope for growth by the regional airports during the years to the end of the century should know no bounds.

Those who run the airports in the provinces are watching two other impending decisions closely. Government plans to "privatise" the British Airports Authority, possibly selling off its seven airports - three serving London, the remainder in Scotland - could also have a serious impact on their future growth.

The Civil Aviation Authority, which at present operates a number of smaller airports in the country, while providing air traffic control and other technical services at others, is also undergoing Government scrutiny. The result of this could conceivably be that the CAA will tend to concentrate in its main roles of licensing, providing national air traffic services, and overseeing safety and technical standards, so leaving other functions to be filled at the regional airports.

It is likely that the CAA will tend to concentrate in its main roles of licensing, providing national air traffic services, and overseeing safety and technical standards, so leaving other functions to be filled at the regional airports.

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Regional managers see no reason why passengers living in, say, the south of England or southern Scotland should have to fly to Heathrow or Gatwick to pick up a service to the Far East, and there is a danger that without such services departing from regional centres, such passengers will commute to a European centre, such as Amsterdam, Zurich, or Frankfurt, to board long-haul aircraft.

Aggressive selling is the answer

But the regions also accept that none of the big world airlines are going to begin operations from local airports unless they can be satisfied that the traffic is there, and that passengers and cargo shippers will not be directed to airports from which it is inconvenient for them to fly.

The answer to this problem which has blighted the growth of the regional airports since the end of the Second World War may be more aggressive selling. Man-

Regional airports

chester International, with a new management team heavily oriented towards marketing, has been pursuing this path, and an indication of its success are regular jumbo flights of the Australian airline Qantas.

Run by two local authorities, Manchester International is the big success of the British regional airport scene, ploughing £2m profit back into the rates in the last financial year, but for many others the story is a far less happy one. According to the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, only nine of the 23 local-authority run airports were in surplus in the financial year 1981-82.

Overall, the municipal airports returned a profit of £2.1m for the year, but the bulk of this was contributed by four airports, Manchester, Birmingham, East Midlands, and Luton. CIPFA's forecast for 1983-84 is for an improvement, with a total surplus of £3.6m, although it now appears that only eight of the airports will be in surplus, and with losses in the case of Liverpool, and a total surplus of nearly £3m. Apart from Sumburgh, all eight Scottish airports run largely as social services by the Civil Aviation Authority are loss-makers, and the authority, under direction from Government, is trying to sell them off to the private sector. It is a trend which has already begun in the West Country, and Plymouth airport now owned and

operated by Brymon Airways, one of the commuter airlines which are opening up new air travel business for regional airports throughout the country.

One of the great problems which has always held back the development of airports in the British provinces has been local pride: airports are operated, often at a large cost to the local ratepayers, in areas where none could be justified, and in many cases in the geographical shadow of another flying for the same passenger and freight markets.

Questions have also been raised as to the wisdom of allowing local authorities to operate what are highly-technical businesses with large budgets, especially since these airports have to compete for a share of the rates with sewage, cemeteries, and playing fields. But although the decisions on buying new radars, or terminal and runway extensions, may be slow in coming from council committees, and although airports compete with each other each year for Government approval of major schemes, there is no evidence to suggest that safety standards are compromised.

The Civil Aviation Authority keeps a tight watch on technical standards at every airport, whether it be Manchester International, or Barra, where landings are on the beach, and there are professional companies such as International Aeradio ready to provide under contract technical

services, from running fire services to managing entire airports.

In the past, it had been suggested that there should be a central body controlling the development of regional airports on a national basis, and that the British Airports Authority should take on this role. It is a suggestion which never found favour with the BAA, as that body pursued its remit from Government to be profitable. Today, free enterprise principles are beginning to dominate both the airports and airline sectors of British aviation, and this should lead, in the long term, to a better deal for the public for which it matters.

The West

Take-off for the holiday tours

Mr Les Wilson has been the general manager of the Bristol airport for the last three crucial years in which a loss has been turned into a healthy profit. In spite of that success he believes

there are too many UK provincial airports, and fears that as competition intensifies some will go to the wall.

Ian Cran, director of the Cardiff-Wales airport does not agree. He believes that no large centre of population can be without its own airport and is convinced of the role of local authorities in providing them. He also says the modern air traveller, businessman or holidaymaker, now expects such a local service.

Both airports, together with Exeter, owe much to the increasing desire of air travellers to fly abroad without having to waste a day going to Gatwick or Heathrow. So, for them, the growth of inclusive tour holidays by operators using regional airports now

expects such a local service.

Ian Cran said: "I am very confident about the future. People are fed up having to go through Gatwick or Heathrow. They want to fly from their local airport".

Bristol airport, operated by Bristol City Council, has turned a £122,000 loss in 1980-81 into a £200,000 profit in 1982-83. The annual turnover is about £6m.

Mr Wilson, the manager, is in no doubt that the charter tour business has been a major success.

Two-thirds of last year's total of 303,000 passengers were "tour" customers; the remaining one-third on scheduled service, mainly domestic.

He believes the airport is vital for a major industrial and commercial centre such as Bristol in spite of exceptional road rail connections with London. Now he is planning keenly for the future.

"Our objective is to be the number one airport of the south west and we will be pressing the Government for regional status. That would help us to put up development plans, get planning permission and raise finance if we wanted to develop further," he said.

In the meantime the airport has announced a new scheduled service to Gatwick, starting in October. It makes Bristol the twenty-second British airport to link into Gatwick.

Exeter Airport Ltd., which has

Continued on page 16

A better approach for Britain's airports?

How best can Britain's regional airports prepare for the future? Ask the enterprising management of any of these twelve locations and we suggest that you'll find many of the answers.

Together they make up every type of regional operation you could imagine. From city helicopter services to offshore rigs. From hub airports to remote aerodromes.

Each was impressed with our flexible approach to their requirements. Impressed with our capacity to participate in management, investment, and financial planning. Impressed with our capability in undertaking technical services, design and installation, and training. Impressed with our ability to provide staff covering the whole range of airport technical disciplines — air traffic control, meteorology, electronics engineering, security, fire and rescue. Whatever the need, we have the resources and experience to meet it in full.

Why not approach our UK Aviation Marketing Manager — Gerry Gill — for further information.



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From the big city to the beach: Manchester Airport with its terminal and runway, and the more casual approach at Barra Beach Airport, in Scotland

been running the operation at Exeter for Devon County Council, lost the contract when it came up for renewal and from next year British Airports International takes over.

About £3m has been spent on the airport in recent years: the runway lengthened and strengthened, a new radar system installed and passenger facilities improved. Although loan charges are high, it operates profitably and once again companies running inclusive tours on the continent are crucial to its business.

Air UK operates the important Exeter-Gatwick link and flights to the Channel Islands. Brymon operates from Exeter to the Scillies.

Mr Bill Bryce, the chairman of Brymon Airways, is one of the best-known names in the west country and is becoming increasingly well-known throughout the

Plymouth is a success story

country. His is not the first company to try their hand at Plymouth airport. Others have failed over the years but by constant improvements to the facilities, a keen eye for worthwhile routes and sheer persistence Mr Bryce has built a success story.

His airline became the tenant of Plymouth airport in 1974 and in 1980 purchased it on a 125 year lease from the City council. Mr Bryce called it "controlling our own destiny", but the takeover meant Brymon was the only airline in the country to own and operate its own airport. It also operates the civil airport at Newquay (alongside RAF St Mawgan) for Reservist council.

In 1972, the airline carried a mere 2,500 passengers. This year it expects the figure to be about 250,000 — about 150,000 of them on its scheduled services to the Scillies, Channel Islands, Gatwick and Heathrow, Birmingham, Cork and Brittany. The remainder are carried on a contract with the Chevron Oil company linking Aberdeen with Unst, Britain's most northerly airport.

The airline uses two DHC Dash 7s for the Chevron contract and one more in Plymouth. The quiet aircraft with its STOL (short take off and landing) ability has been important to Brymon and earlier this year the company landed one in the heart of London's dockland, within sight of the City.

British Airways has operated a successful helicopter service from

The North: ambitious plans, despite the 'honeypot' of the South

Designated in the 1978 White Paper on policy as an international gateway airport, Manchester International has wasted no time in setting out to live up to that accolade, and has emerged as the undoubted leader in the northern region of the country.

The region as a whole is well-served by local airports, with some of them too close together to make true economic sense. It was a problem that was identified by the 1978 White Paper as having particular relevance to Manchester and Liverpool, and to Newcastle and Teesside.

The document saw no reason why the future development of either Newcastle or Teesside should be inhibited, but classified the former as a B category regional airport, and the latter as C. With Manchester as a category A airport, and Liverpool as C, it is inevitable that Liverpool should be heavily overshadowed, and continues to be a consistent loss-maker. But the local council owners appear determined to continue with it, and small airlines have been happy to move in recently when the larger carriers restricted their operations.

According to forecasts by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) for 1983-84, Manchester handling 5.1 million passengers will have a surplus £6.8m while Liverpool with 380,000 passengers will have a £2.9m deficit.

Newcastle is estimated to return a surplus of £1.1m, with 1.1 million passengers, and Teesside a £347,000 deficit with 339,000 passengers. All these airports serve communities that depend on their livelihood on large concentrations of commerce and industry, and their rate of future growth is inevitably bound up closely with the speed at which

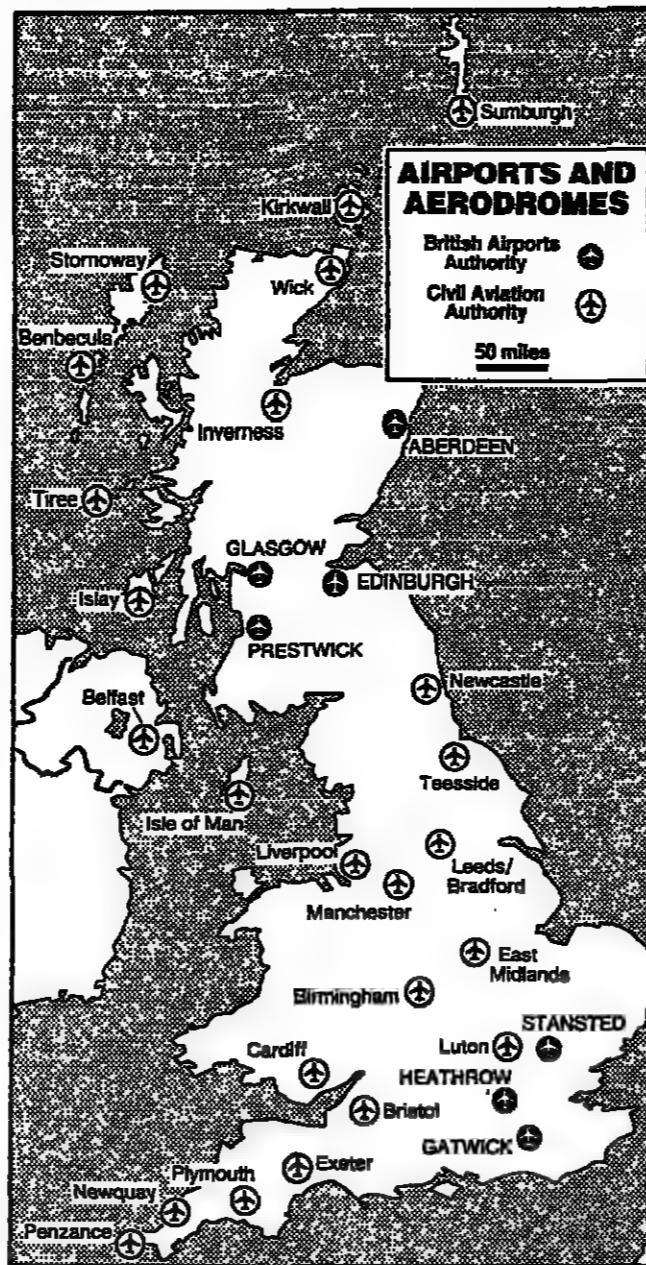
these businesses emerge from the recession. The area as a whole is far enough away from the London air travel "honeypot" to have an aviation life of its own, although high-speed train services to the motorway network and the recently-improved British Airways shuttle to Manchester, with the promise of modern airliners such as the Boeing 757 replacing obsolete Tridents, makes it increasingly easy for passengers to use the services of the airports in the south.

Big expansion plans going ahead

Almost without exception, the airports of the northern region have ambitious expansion plans. Humberside's opportunities were greatly enhanced with the opening, in 1981, of the Humber bridge; this doubled overnight the airport's catchment area. CIPFA estimates that in 1983-84 the number of passengers using the airport will increase by 4.5 per cent over the previous year, although still only reaching 70,000, and that it will have a deficit of £468,000.

Leeds/Bradford, CIPFA forecasts, will with 426,000 passengers, an increase of 2.4 per cent, return a loss of £100,000. This would be a surprising decline from the £1,049,000 operating surplus achieved in 1982/83 for the three authorities who operate it - West Yorkshire County Council, Leeds City Council and Bradford City Council. As part of a big expansion programme, the main runway is being lengthened to 2,250 metres, lighting and navigational aids are being improved, and the first phase of extending the terminal building will be completed by the end of 1984.

Other large projects which have either been begun, or are planned, include extensions to the passenger terminal, enlargement of the tax-free and duty-free areas, extension of the aircraft parking area, a second terminal and a loop into the airport from the inter-city railway line. The present passenger terminal has a capacity of 6.5 million passengers

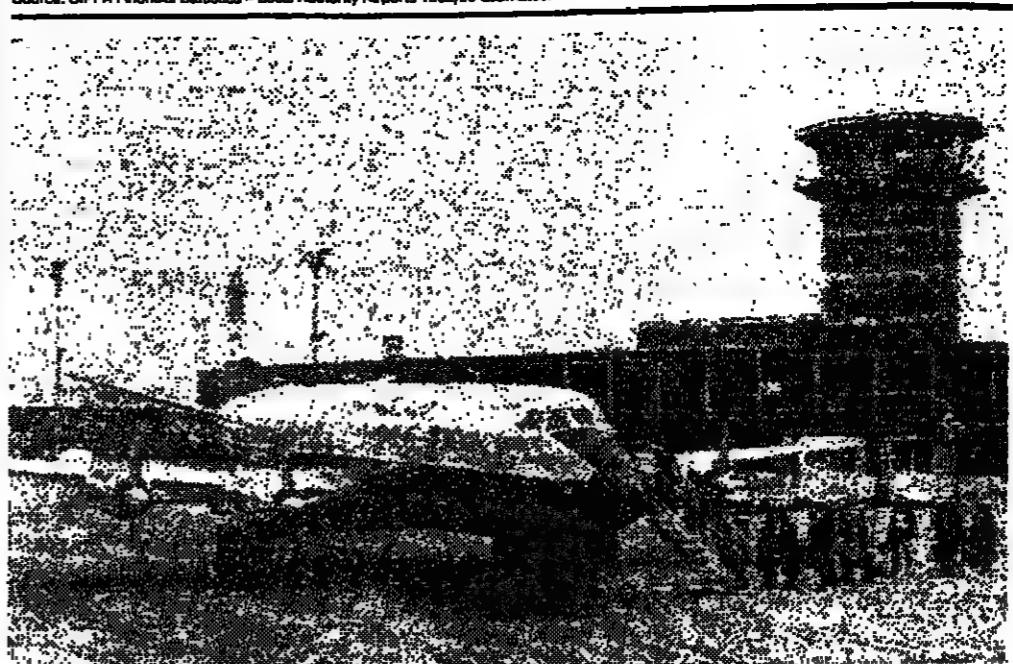


OPERATIONAL COMPARISONS OF UK AIRPORTS

All Local Authority Airports with estimated operating income over £2 million in 1982/83

	Total Passengers (incl. Transit)	Expenditure	Income	Surplus Deficit	Surplus as a proportion of Income	Passenger per £1,000 of Expenditure
Manchester	000s	£000	£000	£000	%	
Luton	5,007	32,375	46,371	13,996	30.2	15.5
Birmingham	1,930	12,128	14,662	2,534	17.3	15.9
Newcastle	1,540	8,880	11,559	2,879	24.9	17.7
East Midlands	1,065	5,528	7,714	2,186	28.3	19.3
Leeds/Bradford	782	5,145	6,974	1,829	26.2	14.8
Bristol	400	1,815	2,592	777	30.0	22.0
Cardiff	345	2,615	2,955	341	12.7	13.2
Liverpool	330	3,411	2,815	-596	-21.2	9.7
Teesside	314	5,038	3,229	-1,809	-56.0	6.2
Average	-	-	-	-256	-12.7	11.0
				-	21.6	15.1

Source: CIPFA Financial Statistics - Local Authority Airports 1982/83 Estimates



Leeds/Bradford airport at Yeadon: the main runway is being lengthened and the terminal building extension will be completed by the end of 1984

Luton, flying into profit

The airports of the Midlands and East Anglia continue to have a lively existence of their own, in spite of the development in recent years of greatly-improved surface links between the communities which they serve and the main London airports.

Luton is the biggest of the group, handling about 1.8m passengers a year, the vast majority of them on package holiday flights to the beaches of the Mediterranean, or winter sports slopes. Run by the Luton Borough Council, it is into the second phase of a £10m development plan largely concentrated on the terminal buildings. An air-conditioned departure lounge, part of a new arrivals hall, a covered arrivals area, and offices for customs and excise, immigration, and health staff have already been handed over by the builders as part of phase two.

Mr Thompson said the airport already serves just over 100 destinations with either scheduled or charter flights, but a further 20 scheduled routes which could be viable had been identified. Efforts were being made to attract further long-haul airlines, such as South African Airways, and Pakistan International, to the airport. "We estimate that there are 3 million people each year going from the Manchester catchment area to join flights from London, but it is difficult to break the habits of the airways.

"Our surveys show, for instance, that there are 168,000 people in the Manchester area with links in the Middle East. Why should all these people have to make their way to London?"

AR

According to forecasts by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, Luton airport will make a profit of around £1m during the 1983-84 financial year, although as its fortunes are so closely tied up with those of the travel trade which, in turn, can be seriously affected by recessionary forces, the outcome will remain in doubt until the last minute.

The airport will become, early in 1984, the base for the first European Boeing 767 wide-body airliner, Britannia Airways, the biggest British package-holiday airline, having chosen this type to augment its 737s.

Monarch, another British independent airline specializing in the "bucket-and-spade" business, introduced the other new Boeing type, the 757, to Luton several months ago. But, although its speciality is package holiday flights, Luton is also an important centre for business aviation, with McAlpine basing its fleet of over 20 British Aerospace 125 jets and other executive types there.

The M1 motorway which opens up Luton to the massive catchment areas of London and the Midlands also runs close to East Midlands, at Castle Donington. Near Derby, an airport which handled around 900,000 passengers during the 1982-83 financial year and which, according to CIPFA forecasts, could approach the 1m mark during 1983-84. Like Luton, it is profitable, with a forecast surplus of £1.3m in the current financial year. Both scheduled and non-scheduled services operate from it.

The 1978 airports White Paper made the point that East Midlands, although further from the main centre of population in the Midlands than Birmingham, is well-sited in relation to the motorway network, and has an important industrial and commercial catchment area of its own. The airport inevitably views with Birmingham, and two advantages which it has over its neighbour are that it lends itself more readily to expansion, while fewer people in the surrounding area are affected by aircraft noise.

The airport was one of Jersey's undertakings which, in 1971, was designated to become a self-sufficient trading area. Costs and efficiency are constantly examined.

Craig Seton

increase the number of passengers handled to 1.7m in 1983-84, compared with 1.6m last year. CIPFA estimates that it will return a profit of about £365,000 this year.

The airport suffers from the drawbacks of a restricted site, and has traditionally been the target for environmental protests from residents of the built-up areas to its north and west. On the other hand, it is superbly sited to serve the important concentration of industry and commerce in the West Midlands, which demands business connections with other parts of Britain and Europe, and to serve the holiday pursuits of one of the country's main concentrations of population. It is also in the centre of a web of motorways and main railway lines, and is close by the national exhibition centre.

The West Midlands County Council, its present owner, is seeking to break free of the restrictions of the airport site by developing an ambitious new terminal and associated works, including a driverless train system to link it to the exhibition centre and Birmingham international station. The train system chosen is MAGLEV, which uses a frictionless magnetic suspension instead of conventional wheels, and is driven along a guideway track elevated over roads and car parks by a linear induction motor.

Construction of the new terminal building began in 1981, and its design is planned to handle up to 5m passengers and 33,000 aircraft movements by 1990. One great advantage which it offers passengers compared with the original building is that they have to walk across the apron in all weather to reach their aircraft, in a series of telescopic, covered piers which will link directly with the aircraft doors.

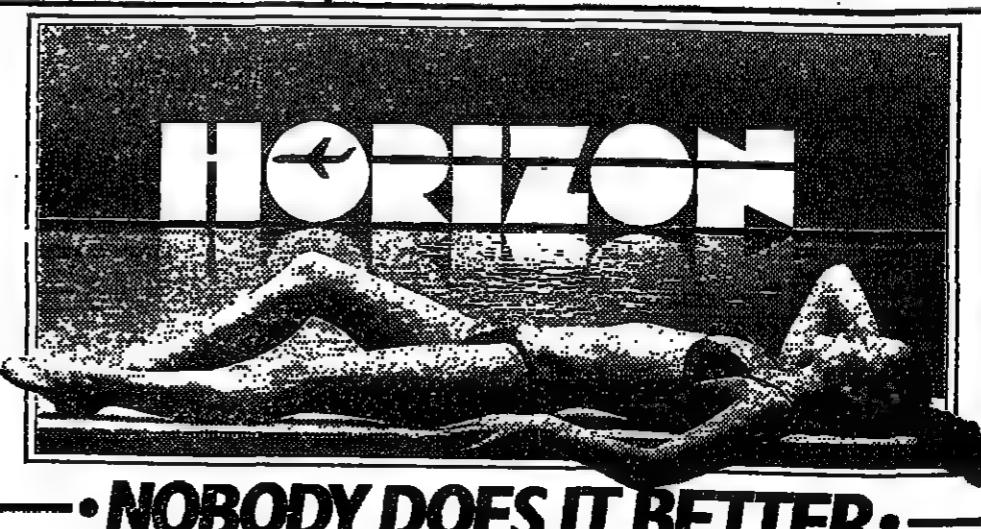
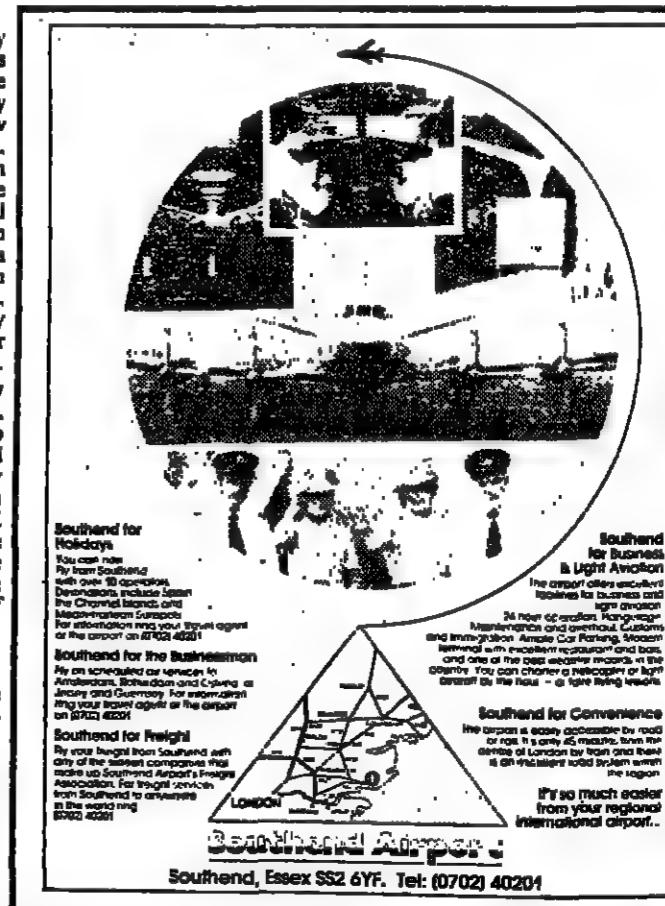
West Midlands CC expects the new development to create up to 2,500 new jobs by the late 1980s, to attract more commerce and industry to the area, and to extend the list of destinations. At present, some 30 are served by scheduled flights and 40 by charters. One interesting recent development is the start of operations by

the current financial year. According to CIPFA estimates, it will make a marginal surplus this year.

Southend, owned by the local borough council, has traditionally specialized in cross-Channel links, and is expected to handle 107,000 passengers this year, seven per cent up on 1982-83. CIPFA forecasts that it will lose £460,000 during the current year.

Like all the airports in the region, it lies under the shadow of Stansted. A decision to proceed with the development of that airport to take 1.5m passengers a year, as is wanted by the British Airports Authority, would have a significant impact on their future, and would inevitably inhibit their long-term growth prospects.

AR



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Scotland:

Oil has put Aberdeen's heliport among the world's busiest, busier even than Houston

The oil industry has transformed airports in northern Scotland. Aberdeen, which was on the threshold of 1975 on the threshold of the North Sea boom, underwent a multi-million pound expansion. A new terminal capable of handling more than one million passengers a year was completed and the old terminal adapted to handle British Caledonian helicopters and North Scottish helicopters. With the existing British Airways and Bristow operations, the Aberdeen heliport now ranks among the busiest in the world, busier even than Houston, Texas.

Last year, the number of helicopter passengers increased by 40 per cent - more than twice the number of three years ago. Overall, Aberdeen handled a 7 per cent increase in passengers and made a trading profit of £591,000.

Oil and related industry has also been behind the growth of international traffic into Aberdeen in addition to the heavy level of domestic flights. Even though the oil industry has moved from busy development into the steadier production phase, air traffic is likely to remain heavy into the next century.

Against that dramatic success story must be set the sad miscalculations at Sumburgh in the Shetlands where the civil Aviation Authority invested £30m in a new terminal to handle business at the beginning of the oil boom.

Sumburgh is no longer thronged with technicians and roustabouts transferring from fixed-wing aircraft to helicopter on their way to the oilfields in the East Shetland basin. Its business died with the introduction of more powerful helicopters able to fly from Aberdeen directly to the oil platforms and with the emergence of Scatista airport near Sullom Voe in north Shetland as a centre for fixed-wing traffic.

Operators complained about the high landing charges Sumburgh levied to help pay for the new terminal. The figures of Sumburgh's decline make gloomy reading. The number of fixed-wing public aircraft using Sumburgh in June was nearly 50 per cent down from the previous year and helicopter traffic showed a similar contraction. Staff at the terminal have been reduced in numbers and all operations concentrated on the Wils Ness terminal, which is still far too large for the traffic.

Unlikely to mothball the terminal

It is unlikely however that the CAA will cut its losses and mothball the splendid modern terminal. If it did so a £10.8m loan from the European Investment Bank would become immediately repayable. The CAA accounts for last year showed that income and profit fall by almost £2m at Sumburgh and the expectation for a heavy deficit.

The CAA has the most difficult job among the Scottish airport authorities since none of its eight airports, with the exception of Sumburgh, was in profit last year although in June the passenger returns showed a 7 per cent increase. Kirkwall in the Orkney Islands had a 26 per cent increase but there is concern in the Highlands about possible privatisation of CAA airports.

In central Scotland there is a superabundance of excellent airports, notably Glasgow and Edinburgh for European and domestic traffic and Prestwick for long-haul jets, principally to and from North America.

The British Airports Authority is determined to protect Prestwick's transatlantic flights, despite the objections in Edinburgh and Glasgow that more routes be opened to those cities. Last year Edinburgh handled 1.2 million passengers, a quarter million fewer than the airport was designed for, giving its boosters another argument why more overseas flights should land there.

Overseas visitors to the Edinburgh Festival consider it odd to land at Prestwick on the west coast of Scotland and travel by coach or train for more than an hour, passing two perfectly equipped international airports en route.

A BAA spokesman admitted that in a perfect world that Scotland would probably be best served by a central international

airport but the fact was that the social repercussions of Prestwick closing down were unthinkable and the waste of a major facility not economically acceptable. A number of initiatives were being taken to promote Prestwick as the main Scottish international airport and there is a heavy subsidy for feeder air services to Aberdeen and Belfast.

"Edinburgh and Glasgow were both developed separately and we have to make the best of what we have got," the BAA say. There was little sense in building a central Scottish airport now and duplicating facilities less than one hour apart at a cost of £50m. Apart from that, the landscape did not favour such a development. Much of the windswept high ground separating the two cities often has its head in the clouds. Instead, the BAA will continue to develop Prestwick cargo and passenger traffic.

Ronald Faux

Islands:

Going by air is a way of life

The Orkneys people board an aircraft with less concern than they would climb into a car. Along the broad spread of islands the air link centred on Kirkwall and operated by Loganair acts as a lifeline, a constant reassurance and a convenient transport that reduces a sea voyage of several hours to a flight lasting a few minutes.

The Orkneys are perfect for such an operation, a fact that is immediately apparent as the twin-engine Islander aircraft lifts its nose from the runway at Kirkwall and presents to passengers a panorama of the small islands to the north. They are largely flat, intensively farmed with fields that overlap their edges. The sea lanes dividing them are often wide and marked with the white froth of tide rips or submerged reefs. They are scattered so that the air routes to them run like the spokes of a bicycle wheel from the hub of Kirkwall.

The Islands of Westray and Papa Westray are so close together that the flight between them is shorter than the length of Heathrow's longest runway - it is claimed as the shortest scheduled flight in the world. The airport on the island of Eday, near the Bay of London, is on a narrow grass strip grazed by sheep.

The island aircraft hop low from island to island, skipping over the rooftops of the quiet, isolated communities to land on fields from which grazing animals have been temporarily cleared. An airport has a windsock shelter, fire appliance and white stones marking the runways to comply with licence regulations.

One small Scottish airport rebelled at the cost of a conventional fire appliance and so manufactured one themselves. Someone said it looked like the dog in Dr Who and so the symbol K9 was painted on its side. The department inspector solemnly wrote "K9" in his book and the apparatus has served loyally ever since.

A welcome from the islanders

In the Orkneys crofters and doctors, peripatetic teachers and midwives, stretcher cases and civic servants, bird watchers and veterinary surgeons and a host of others who are part of the quiet world of the islands all travel by air. Last year Loganair carried 17,000 people in the Orkneys alone. The service ensures a quick delivery of mail and a same-day delivery of cases to hospital.

A similar service operates in Shetland linking Tingwall with the largest outer islands. Other islands are served by charter flights paid for by the Shetland Islands Council including most of the Out Skerries where the

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THE ARTS

Caroline Moorehead meets Shiva Naipaul, whose novel *A Hot Country* is published this week.

Earning experience to elevate into fiction

"Every day", reflects a character in Shiva Naipaul's new novel, *A Hot Country*, "I have to redefine myself." It is, admits Naipaul, himself talking. Trinidadian, a descendant of Hindus who migrated to the West Indies at the turn of the century, Naipaul returns often, both in conversation and writing, to the theme of belonging.

"I'm afflicted by that sense of unreality," he says. "I don't have a social station to fall back on. I'm an ambiguous person, a fluid sort of being. My life has been defined by three poles that don't meet: Trinidad, where I was born; India, which provided me with a religion and a name; and England. I exist in a very vulnerable relationship to all three." Being born in Trinidad, he adds, gave him a permanent feeling of being a minority.

Naipaul is now in his late thirties, a tall, somewhat corpulent man with round face and round glasses and the courteous, slightly grave manner of someone older. He gives an impression of self-sufficiency, of purposefulness. He has just moved from Maida Vale to a first-floor flat in Belize Park in north London. Workmen are moving plugs and neat piles of books piled up against the walls. He is apologetic, a little uneasy as if the routine of things had been upsettingly disrupted.

He came from Trinidad on a scholarship to Oxford in 1964, at the age of 18, the younger son in a family of five girls and two boys. The older son, Vididhar, better known as V. S. Naipaul, was already here and writing. Their father, who had worked on the *Trinidad Guardian* and written several short stories, had died when Shiva was seven. The younger boy was to read philosophy and psychology. "The going-abroad was part of the ritual of growing-up. There was no question of doing anything else. I travelled by ship: the scene on the docks, the farewells, the gathering of aunts, the new suits. It was all part of the ride."

Friends who met him then recall a slender and timid young man shattered



by an incident in Notting Hill Gate when a lorry driver spat at him. "I arrived with adolescent rapture," he says. "Most of my notions were bookish. I remember being very afraid. The first night I stayed in a room in the British Council: I had never been in a room like that on my own. I felt hungry but I wondered how to use the restaurant. There was a lot of alarm in my excitement."

At Oxford he read Chinese: the behavioural psychology of the 1960s baffled him and he wanted "the cheap

thrill of trying to tackle Confucius in the original". It was a frivolous choice, not part of a grander scheme. Just before leaving university he began to write a story that turned two years later and after many metamorphoses into a warmly praised first novel, *Fireflies*. Meanwhile, he had married.

As we talk, the phone rings. It is his brother, "to console me for not being on the Booker Prize short list". (V.S. Naipaul won it a few years ago with *In a Free State*.) Both brothers made their

names as novelists; both travel and write about the places they see; both are preoccupied with problems of identity, the confusing ties of culture and value; both write with irony and pessimism; both have collected an array of literary prizes.

The similarities are so enormous: has Shiva felt overshadowed? "V.S. Naipaul is 13 years older," he says. "It's no sense has it made it easier for me. But I have done what I wanted to. There is nothing else to be said." He laughs, to make the words sound less censorious.

After *Fireflies* and a second novel, *The Chip-Chip Gatherers*, Shiva Naipaul turned to non-fiction, although he insists that he regards both as one body of work, different only in that non-fiction "continues to perform the great service of widening and deepening my experiences" which later may or may not emerge in fiction. He is careful to distinguish his own writing from the "new journalism" of mainly American writers like Tom Wolfe, arguing that whereas Wolfe makes the narrative the central feature, creating situations in which to dramatise himself, he is more passive, more a subjective reporter of

"Handling the self, the seeing, experiencing it, is one of the most difficult things a writer can do. The person isn't even balanced; but then we don't live in an objective world." Naipaul talks as he writes, with often unusual choice of word, thoughts fluently marshalled into sequence. "One only gradually becomes a writer. You have to teach yourself with each book: there is no such thing as a writer's skill, naturally deployed."

At the end of the year, Naipaul is going to Australia, to spend five or six months travelling, starting in South-East Asia, and with no clear idea of what kind of book will result. His wife and nine-year-old son, who goes to school in Hampstead, will stay in London. He has never wanted to go back to Trinidad and says there is nothing there to feed or keep him. "In many ways it would have been a kind of death to go back. London has room for the oddity I have become."

It was trying to live in the United States, however, first on the West Coast and later in Connecticut, that taught him that he did not want to live anywhere but England. "It's familiar," he says. "I'm accustomed to it. But I don't believe in roots. I will go on living my peculiar life, always oblique to the larger society, in it but not of it. It's impossible for me to have roots. I don't know what soil to put them down in. But I don't search for them either. I'm not an anarchist."

Television Time bravely spent

Some courage was involved in ITV's decision to show Brian Moser's trilogy *Frontier*, which follows the cocaine trail from the coca leaf plantations in Bolivia and Amazonia to its arrival in America where, despite government efforts, \$25 billion of the stuff is imported annually to be snuffed at smart-set parties and to offset the enigma of affluence.

Two hour-long films were shown last night and a third, followed by a profile of Mr Moser on Channel 4, will be shown tonight. That is three hours and 45 minutes, but time well spent, and more courage was needed from Mr Moser, who was shot at and threatened and whose crew endured many vicissitudes to bring this graphic story to the screen for Central.

We began last night in Colombia with a Mr Elisco who runs a jungle laboratory where he processes the leaf. Despite primitive laboratory conditions, sporadic police raids and gun battles, he produces cocaine to a quality that made a scientist examining the result in pristine conditions in Miami exclaim "You can't help wondering where he learnt his chemistry".

Mr Elisco, who gathered rubber until it proved profitless, had earlier explained that poverty had been his incentive and that a few pesos for his old age his ambition. Dealers pay \$17 a gram in the jungle; they mark it up in America at \$400 on the streets.

Dennis Hackett

London theatre

Gas and Candles Stratford East

An old couple with little but death to look forward to, nothing to eat and the power off, stage a hoaxed stage to get a bit of food and attention; that is the starting point for David Henry Wilson's sedating little farce. They never saved a penny and the Majestic Cinema they gave their working lives to (as projectionist, she as usherette) has gone. "We did an honest day's work and look where it got us," says Wilson. "That line must raise a round of applause some night."

But, after beginning desolately with a teatless, sugarless, breadless breakfast (which younger members of the audience, clutching their second or third pints of the evening, found hilarious), the working-out is farcical. Having dialled 999 for the police, they have to impersonate IRA gunmen demanding the release of some Irish-sounding prisoner. So Frank opens the window a crack and requests the liberation of Daniel O'Connell and a chauffeur-driven getaway car in a dazzling Scots accent.

It had me constantly thinking "pathetic" — sometimes in the kindred sense, sometimes not. Frank has been trying to commit suicide since 1939. After all those years in the cinema, their hoax is partly just their big acting

That goes for their relationship too. While Derek Francis's lumbering, gloomy Frank panics and pontificates, Doria Hare's Marlene is ever bright and resourceful, comforting and averting disaster. When the requested lunch is lowered in delicious but probably bugged, she does a fair ad-lib: "I won't touch a drop of English food till Ireland is free". Frank's contribution is "And that goes for us Scots too, look you" in stentorous Welsh.

Most pathetically of all, they are not looking to the end. Fortunately the author is. Their inevitable surrender brings on an unexpectedly bullying, conceited police chief (Jim Dunk) to encounter Frank's angry indictment of a society that needs a drama to make an effort. That is no joke.

Philip Hickey's direction finds plenty of light and shade in the long dialogue. They tax the players' memories, but Mr Francis's bitterness has a perfect foil in Miss Hare's mischievous zest, which never lets you forget how much she loves him and how well she knows how to show it.

Anthony Masters

Put It On Your Head Almeida

The Théâtre de Complicité enjoys teasing its audience but, thankfully, without the aggressive tone so often involved in that word "participation". From the start, when toy crabs on elastic strings are dangled from the balcony on to people sitting below, the mood is playful and friendly.

The four members of the company, former students of the French mime artist Jacques Lecoq, use minimal props. An undulating length of rope becomes the edge of the sea, with a few carefully placed shells. The evening builds up into a Jacques Tati-like fantasy about behaviour on the beach.

A spinner tries to indulge in some modest sunbathing and struggles to remove her tights behind a deckchair, which collapses. A nervous, Bible-reading man removes his spectacles to avoid witnessing her embarrassment. Their sense of

decency is rudely shattered by a spiv who arrives with blaring stereophonic radio, and suggestively strips to his briefs.

The day on the beach becomes more fraught — buying an ice-cream becomes a grotesque nightmare, and eating it a form of torture. The shy man's offer of a cup of tea becomes laden with frazzled imaginings of hidden and disreputable motives.

The actors use a limited

amount of dialogue in their sketches, but most of the attempts at communication between the luckless inhabitants of the beach are conducted in sounds and half-sentences. Annabel Arden, wearing Billy Butler clothes, supplies the sound of the waves, and in one delightful scene becomes an out-of-order telephone box, malevolently rejecting attempts to feed her with coins. The evening is a beautifully constructed mixture of buffoonery and mime and, at one hour ten minutes in length, avoids any danger of spinning the joke out too far.

Clare Colvin

•

The sixth annual Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival takes place from November 17 to 23. Elliott Carter and Hans Werner Henze are taking part in the festival, as well as such performing groups as the Fires of London, the Nash Ensemble and the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. The Yorkshire Arts Association Young Composer Competition will be held in conjunction with the festival, the winning pieces being performed in concerts on November 21.

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Top awards for contemporary discs

The Philips recording of Tippett's Triple Concerto by György Páuk, Nobuko Imai, Ralph Kirshbaum and the ISO under Sir Colin Davis has been adjudged "record of the year" in the 1982-83 Gramophone Record Awards. It is the first time a concerto record has won the award, which has generally gone to an opera set.

Twentieth-century music is

strongly represented among the

awards. Strauss's *Metamorphosen*, coupled with *Tod und Verklärung*, wins the orchestral section (Berlin PO/Karajan; DG).

The opera award goes to Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen* (Vienna/Máceras; Decca). Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony (Concertgebouw/Haitink; Decca) heads the engineering and production section. The historical (non-vocal) award goes to Bartók's

String Trio. Nonetheless both works

revealed a finely blended ensemble, characterised by the firm, rounded tone of Régis Pasquier's violin, the rich resonance of Bruno Pasquier's viola and a warm and whispering restraint in Roland Pidoux's cello that reminded me of Fournier.

The link with Fournier was further reinforced by the performance of Faure's Second Piano Quartet, which in its tastefulness and easy flow, its passion and gloriously muted sounds, recalled the famous recording by Fournier, Tubaut, Vieus and Marguerite.

If the ear was constantly attracted by the polished, pearly transience of Mr Collard's playing, this did not cloud the fact that the Pasquier Trio was

constantly aware of the nuances of one another's playing and that it was gifted with an individual and collective emotional response to the music.

Geoffrey Norris

Le Tombeau de Ravel, one of Messiaen's earliest substantial orchestral works, receives its British premiere (Barbican, February 18) during the 1983-84 season of the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra, conducted by its artistic director, James Blaikie. An ambitious season, which varies from classical orchestral music in the Queen Elizabeth Hall to "classical greats" in the Albert Hall, is entirely sponsored by Unilever.

Two of the YMSO's Festival Hall concerts involve single large-scale works: Britten's *War Requiem* (March 5) and Mahler's Third Symphony (June 7). By contrast, Ralph Holmes joins the YMSO (St John's, March 24) for the first public performance of Delius's Suite for violin and orchestra, and also appears as violin soloist in Bar's Phantasm, in the same concert.

The season opens on October 17 with programmes of Elgar's

music at the Barbican.

Chad J. 150

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 Sydney: AO Index 718.8 down 1.5
 Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 940.70 down 0.20
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 DM 3.9725
 FRF 12.0450 down 0.01
 Yen 357 down 0.75
 Dollar
 Index 127.8 up 0.4
 DM 2.6535
 NEW YORK LATEST
 Sterling 1.4965
 Dollar DM 2.8490
 INTERNATIONAL
 ECUS 0.570685
 SDR 20.702148

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
 Bank base rates 9%
 Finance houses market rate 10%
 Discount market loans 10%
 fixed 9%
 3 month interbank 9% 9%
 Euro-currency rates
 3 month dollar 9% 9%
 3 month DM 5% 5%
 3 month FRF 14% 14%
 US rates
 Bank prime rate 11.00
 Fed funds 8%
 Treasury long bond 104% 104%
 ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period August 3 to September 6, 1983. Includes 9.830 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
 am \$413.50 pm \$412.25
 close \$412.50 (2275.50)
 New York latest: \$412.25
 Krugerrand* (per coin):
 \$425-426.50 (\$284-285)
 Sovereigns (new):
 \$97.98 (£64.75-65.50)
 *Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interim: Associates Book Publishers, Aurora, Central Independent Television, DRG, Eastern Produce, Emess Lighting, Cecil Gee, Manders Holdings, Moss Bros, Jane Neill Holdings, Riley Leisure, Tilbury Group, Wingate (Property Investments). Final: Ben Bailey Construction, Home Farm Products, Lawrie Plantation Holdings, Mills & Allen International; Northern Industrial Improvement Trust. Economic statistics: Overseas Travel and Tourism (July). Quarterly analysis of bank advances (mid-Aug). Personal income, expenditure and saving (second quarter). Industrial and commercial companies appropriation account (second quarter).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Aeronautical & General Instruments, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, EC2 (noon). Amalgamated Distilled Products, Savoy Hotel, Strand, WC2 (noon). Courts (Furnishers), The Grange, Central Road, Morden (11.00). Danes Inv Trust, 44 Bloomsbury Square, WC1 (12.30). Dennis (James H.), Trafford Park Road, Manchester (11.30). Diamond Stylus, Imperial Hotel, Llandudno (12.30). Nova (Jersey) Knit, Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, WC2 (11.00). Steama Romana (British), 4 Fors Street, EC2 (noon). Wagon Industrial Holdings, Plough & Harrow Hotel, Birmingham (11.00).

NOTEBOOK

Combined English Stores has seen a £2.5m turnaround in its half-year results. The group is now pushing hard its two key High Street chains, Fentons and Salisburys, and expects substantially better full-year figures.

Investors' Notebook, page 21
Report argues change would allow heavy cut in income tax

Abolition of pension reliefs could save £5.1 billion a year

By Graham Scarjeant

The Chancellor could cut the standard rate of income tax possibly by as much as 10p in the pound from 30p to 20p by abolishing special tax reliefs mainly on pensions, according to radical new calculations by the Inland Revenue.

The new calculations, thought to have been ordered by Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, show that tax reliefs on pension contributions, investment and lump sum payments alone amount to £5.1 billion a year for occupational pension schemes for the current financial year.

This compares with a figure of only £1.1 billion for 1982-83 used in the Government's spending plans as a calculation of the equivalent tax cost of pension reliefs.

A further £390m was then quoted as the

tax cost of relief on self-employed pensions. On the previous basis, the 1982-83 cost of occupational pension reliefs would be £2.4 billion.

The Inland Revenue stresses that the new basis of calculation is not intended to provide a model for future pensions taxation. But it is certain to sharpen the argument both to abolish special income tax reliefs in order to reduce the standard rate of income tax or to remove the massive tax distortions between different forms of saving as recommended in the Wilson report on financial institutions and the private Meade report on personal taxation, which recommended that income tax be replaced by a spending tax.

It is also likely to be a timely reminder to the pensions industry of the true value of the privileges under which they operate and put pressure on them to conform to the Government's desire for a

better deal for those who change jobs during their careers and are heavily penalized under the occupational pensions system.

The new calculations suggest that tax relief on employees' contributions, which are paid out of pre-tax income, will amount to £1.1 billion this year.

Relief on employers' contributions, which are not counted as pay in employees' hands, amounts to a further £1.1 billion.

Relief on the investment income of pension funds is estimated at £2.25 billion and the exemption of lump sum payments on retirement at £650m.

Even these figures ignore the tax cost of exempting pension funds from capital gains tax, which, according to the new Inland Revenue report, "cannot be estimated reliably".

If all these reliefs were withdrawn, pensions would be subject to massive double taxation. The Revenue estimates that pensioners will pay £1.85 billion in income tax on pension payments this year.

This is probably an underestimate of the long-term balance between reliefs on pension contributions and investment on the one hand and taxation of pension payments on the other because of the huge growth of occupational pensions in the past generation and particularly since the 1975 Act.

At present, the Inland Revenue works on its traditional principle of symmetry, whereby pension contributions and investments receive tax relief whereas pension payments attract income tax, apart from lump sum disbursements on retirement.

Inchcape disappoints City

By Philip Robinson

Inchape
 Half-year to 30.6.83
 Pre-tax profit £24.5m (£24.3m)
 Stated earnings p (p)
 Turnover £239.8m (£284m)
 Net interim dividend 7.15p (7.15p)
 Share price 288-13p Yield 8 per cent
 Dividend payable

Hongkong's financial crisis yesterday brought doubts of an early profits recovery for Inchape, the international trading group.

Inchape, now headed by former Unilever chairman Sir David Giv, earns about 20 per cent of its pretax profit from Hongkong. The sharp fall in its currency and stock market have needed substantial government intervention.

The crisis has hit Inchape in the middle of its second half. The company admits that the far East turned in lower profits during the first half to the end of June but points out that, for profit transfers into sterling, it takes the rate ruling at the year end.

Rather than an average over the six months.

An Inchape spokesman said last night: "The Hongkong dollar has some time to sort itself out before the end of this year."

For the six months to the end of June Inchape's pretax profits were barely changed at £24.5m on

a turnover which rose from £834m to £839m. The profits are £1m better in sterling terms than would have been the case taking exchange rates at December 31.

However, some analysts were expecting a pretax figure of £28m and the Inchape shares fell 18p into one point before rallying to close 13p lower at 295p. Even at that price some analysts feel the shares are expensive.

Mr Michael Smith, analyst at the stockbroking firm Simons & Cates said: "I was expecting full year profits of £53m, but it could be nearer £50m. I would expect those looking for £57m to start pricing down their forecasts."

In the year to last December, Inchape reported pretax profits of £55.8m its performance since the record year in 1977 has been patchy.

Last summer Lord Inchape, chairman for almost 25 years, announced he was retiring. Sir David took over this year.

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MARKET REPORT • by Michael Clark

Spanish insolvency hits shares

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Sept 19; Dealings end, Sept 30; Contango Day, Oct 2; Settlement Day, Oct 10.

	Chns	Price
A & M Hse (Op Ord (a)	121	138-145
Am Int'l Corp (Op Ord (115a)	121	138-145
Central Independent Tv 50p N.Y.Ord (a)	168	
Cife (Op Ord (1a)	145-1	
DPLC (Op Ord (1a)	161	161-162
Fleisch (Op Ord (1a)	161	161-162
Freshkicks Foods 5p Ord (63a)	16	16-17
Mannequin Hds (Op Ord (63a)	16	16-17
Marine Ind (Op Ord (1a)	159-1	
PCT Group (Op Ord (12a)	159-1	
Pet Hides 25p Ord (210)	196	
Play Systems 25p Ord (205a)	221	
Post F.T.C. Corp (Op Ord (14a)	311	
SCUSA 50.01 (55a)	100-3	
Southern Business Leasing 10p Ord (85a)	101+3	
Technology for Business (Op Ord (100a)	80	
Technical Scientific 25p Ord (13a)	89-1	
use price in parentheses if available. Securities * by tender.		

The smell of burnt fingers wafted around the market yesterday sending share prices reeling. A Panamanian subsidiary of the Spanish banking group C & R Pastor has become involved and is unlikely to be able to meet its commitments after massive over dealing of shares on the London stock market.

The debts could be as high as \$55m (£33.4m) and may have serious repercussions for London firms who handled Pastor's business in London.

Pastor's Panamanian subsidiary specialized in arbitrage business and having found itself sitting on large losses dealt "cash and new" carrying over its losses into the next account. Unfortunately with the market continuing to drift ahead of the BP the losses merely grew.

The FT Index reflected the nervousness felt around the market closing 8.5 down at 694.0.

Blue chips were worst affected with Distillers falling 4p to 212p, GKN 3p to 166p, BT 8p to 54p, Glaxo 10p to 780p, Grand Metropolitan 7p to 320p and Lucas Industries 3p to 156p. Bowater was also a weak market, first thing, on rights issue fears but later recovered to close only 3p down at 198p, after 194p.

million new shares have now changed hands in the first two days of trading.

News that the Hongkong Government was being forced to rescue one of the colony's local banks continued to unhinge the financial markets out in the Far East. A statement said the government will take over the

business of Hang Lung. Standard Chartered last night confirmed it acted as a clearer for Hang Lung but said its commitments would be taken up in full by the Hongkong Government. Nevertheless Standard still fell 15p to 422p.

Hongkong companies with London quotes also lost ground. Cheung Kong fell 2p to 53p, after 57p. Hutchison Whampoa 1p to 4p, after 874p and Jardine Matheson 3p to 82p, after 88p. The colony's financial community had been hopeful that the government would step in and support the HK dollar which has fallen to its lowest ever level against the US dollar.

A consortium headed by N. G. Shapling and Michael Davies has increased its holding in Milford Docks. It has bought an extra 312,000 and now owns a total of 778,000 ordinary shares or 24.95 per cent of the total. The consortium has also obtained an option to buy an extra 151,000

shares which, if exercised will take the stake to 29.86 per cent. Gibraltar-based Seafar Investments has increased its holding in Atkins Bros, the Hosiery group, and now owns 425,000 shares, or 13.26 per cent of the total. Atkins

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shares which, if exercised will take the stake to 29.86 per cent. Atkins Bros rose 1p to 82p on the news. Seafar has other investments in United Kingdom publicly quoted companies and recently increased its stake in G.R.A. Group, the greyhound racing group, to 10.33 per cent. Shares of the Midasite Trust rose 4p to a new high of 98p following an announcement from the board it had received an

approach which might lead to an offer being made for the company. At present leading shareholders include Sun Life Assurance with 14.8 per cent of the shares, Commercial Union with 8.1 per cent and London & Manchester Assurance with 5.5 per cent. The board says it will keep shareholders informed.

Mr Robert Maxwell, chairman of BPCC never gives up easily. Yesterday he bought a further 281,000 shares in John Waddington, the board games group, which he narrowly missed winning control of in a fiercely contested takeover battle recently. BPCC and Pergamon Press, the private arm of the Maxwell empire, now control 1.52 million shares, or 24.4 per cent of the total, between them. However, Mr Maxwell must now wait a year before renewing his assault on the beleaguered Waddington, unchanged at 261p.

Mr David Hargreaves, Chairman of Hestair, slammed as "total rubbish" reports that he was unhappy with the Duplex takeover and that the company would take three years to bring into profit. Intending to issue a formal statement later today, Mr Hargreaves added: "We are rather pleased with Duplex."

1982/83 Int. Gross Div Yield
High Low Stock Price Chg/pence Yield Yield

BRITISH FUNDS

	High	Low	Stock	Price	Chg/pence	Gross Div Yield	Vid	% P/E
SHORSES	196	186	Each	130-1	100-1	11.42	6.70	
101	196	186	Each	130-1	100-1	11.42	6.70	
99	174	164	Fund	1987-84	99%	5.54	8.28	
102	91	81	Each	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
98	91	81	Each	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
103	91	81	Treas	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
97	81	71	Fund	1987-84	99%	5.54	8.28	
104	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
92	81	71	Treas	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
105	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
106	81	71	Treas	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
107	81	71	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
108	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
109	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
110	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
111	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
112	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
113	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
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127	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
128	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
129	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
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131	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
132	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
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151	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
152	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
153	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
154	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
155	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.17	8.11	
156	91	81	Treas Cr	1884	100-1	11.		

In the second of our series, John Lawless looks at Britain's fight to tap the £30bn world telephone market

Turning point to success for System X

There are two legends about the worldwide telecommunications industry.

The first concerns a Kansas City underwriter who was so fed up with calls being directed to a competitor's funeral parlour - by the competitor's wife who worked at the local telephone exchange - that he invented the world's first automatic call-switching device.

The other is that after more than 15 years of development, by 1,000 engineers and at a cost of £275m, Britain's third generation electronic telephone network, System X, is a commercial failure.

The first is true - and Mr Almon B Strower's anti-body snatching equipment is, more than 89 years on, still used in 4,202 of Britain's 6,598 local exchanges.

The second is not. Proof, however, will have to wait. By the exporter's harsh creed, "the only success is an order that is signed, sealed, delivered and paid for".

British Telecom can talk for days about the amazing benefits of the digital national network it has begun to install, with initial equipment orders of £150m to be added to twice a year.

By 1986, 30 main centres will be linked by digital transmission, with 80 trunk exchanges in place two years later. The City of London will be the first to be blessed with the many, and often business-applicable, add-on services under a pilot scheme next year.

But the only thing the manufacturers, Plessey and GEC, cannot add is the name of their first important overseas buyer of System X.

That moment, though, may come in as little as two weeks' time.

The manufacturers refuse to be drawn about their immediate sales prospects. The industry, however, is buzzing with the sort of noises which digital systems are

supposed to eliminate. A Middle East customer, it is said, is close to a decision.

The excitement of business insiders is more easily understood if they are likened to zoo-keepers awaiting the birth of an animal which has managed to combine the rarity of the panda with the pregnancy of an elephant: orders for digital networks have been few, and follow tendering periods of up to three years.

Whether System X gets the next order or not, the noticeable thing about senior management in the companies involved is that they are not chewing crossed fingers. They maintain that, within very short period, their chances of success will improve dramatically.

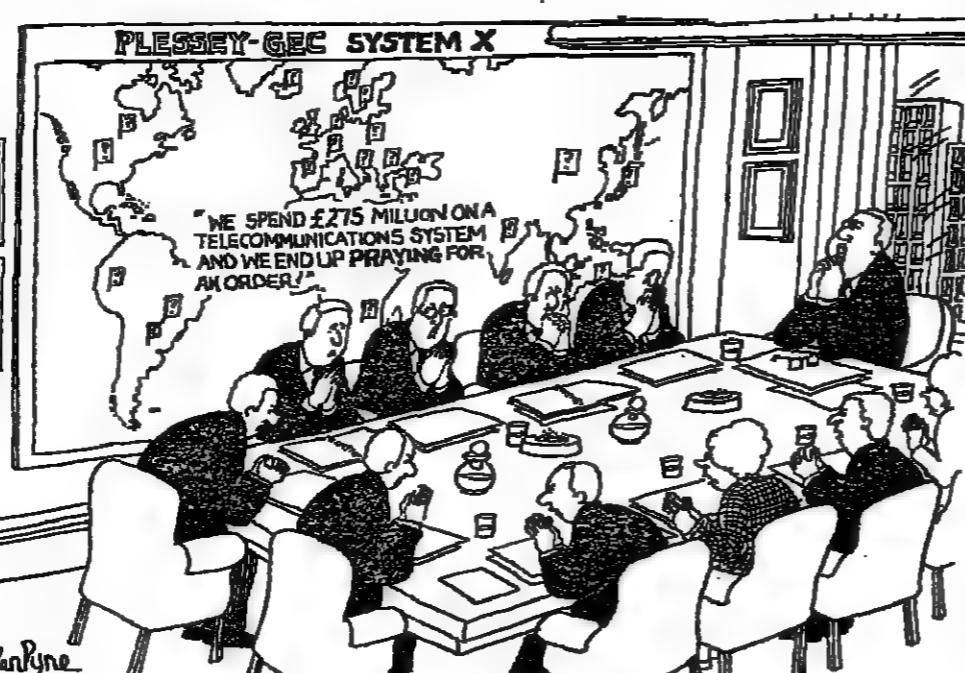
System X was developed jointly by British Telecom, Plessey, GEC and Standard Telephones, which later dropped out. A year ago, development collaboration ended, leaving the two manufacturers as rivals not only for BT's business, but to grab a share for Britain of a highly competitive £30bn a year market to bring the world into the new telephone-based electronic age.

The heart of this competition is in countries which do not have their own manufacturers.

The frustration in the System X camp is not so much over the "no sales" talk as over the tantalising dream of success. "There are 400 million telephones in the world," says Mr Eric Clark, chief executive of Plessey Communications. "The orders placed so far for systems which can compete with System X amount to six or seven million. That means there is more than 98 per cent of today's market still to go - and it is growing and growing."

The two deals for which System X has been short-listed during the recent past, in China and India, carried demands that the system must offer operational evidence

of a working 5,000 line exchange.



of stable product availability, is anyone's guess.

The other view must be that, with BT paying development costs to produce a system for the advanced British market, it was not compatible with the needs of Third World buyers, who have been most often, identified as its best potential customers. It is repeatedly accused of being late.

"It would have been nice had it been earlier," Mr Richard Reynolds, GEC Telecommunications managing director, says. "Given the demand that has now emerged, everybody knew that the world was going to go digital, but you would have to be a genius to assess the exact point when it becomes economically viable for a country to buy."

"System X is not a can of beans. Telecommunications is what we are selling, not a one-off

product, and it demands a co-ordinated effort to create an environment in which the customer wants to buy."

But what about the double-edged adjective that is regularly used? "This Concorde thing is rubbish" said a renegade-mild Mr John Alvey, BT's engineer-in-chief.

"We could not have achieved the same thing by going out to international tender. There is nothing better than System X, and every technical decision that was taken throughout the development phase was made with the needs of world markets very much in mind."

Yet every time a digital system is offered to a customer, the need to tailor it to individual requirements is still immense. "The technical documents involved in our Indian bid stacked into

volumes this long," explains Mr Reynolds, stretching his hands far apart, like the fisherman-with-the-one-that-got-away.

The reason why two orders slipped away to France with one for a £150m factory, contains many of the elements of what Mr Clark describes as "the reality of selling" in today's highly-competitive world markets.

Everyone on the industry had heard that CIT-Alcatel was never really in the bidding. It was certainly not in the last three at the technical evaluation stage.

Telephone calls from Mitterrand the French President to Mrs Indira Gandhi have been rumoured and as one European trade official, who was closely involved, observes: "India bought a digital telecommunications system at the same time as it set up a package for jet fighters and nuclear collaboration - and that was no coincidence."

The fact that India had always said that it wanted two technologies, to ensure that it did not become dependent on one supplier, increased the pain of the second French order - but left the belief that the market has not been closed.

Messrs Clark, Reynolds and Alvey accompanied Mr Kenneth Baker, the Industry and Information Technology Minister, to India last month, to talk about a range of telecommunications proposals. "We have an on-going dialogue with India," says Mr Reynolds.

China was much heart-warming for the British. "We could have sold there had System X been up and running in significant quantities in Britain," says Mr Clark emphatically.

He pointed out that in the current round of rescheduling, forfeit notes are being repaid and are not included in any deferral - even by countries like Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Poland.

Mr Nigel Hindson is general manager of the London branch of Creditanstalt, Austria's biggest company and biggest bank, which handles 40 per cent of Austria's export financing.

He says: "There is a big difference in a country allowing a default on a note covering the import of goods supporting a basic industry than allowing a default on an internationally syndicated loan."

In the end, industry sources believe, they paid at least 25 per cent more than the System X price.

Tomorrow:
Davy Corporation

Financial notes

Why forfeit notes are big business

One of the main problems to emerge from the international debt crisis has been how leading manufacturers can continue exporting to these countries with little or no hard currency or a poor credit rating.

Ironically, solving these problems has fallen upon those trade financing sectors of the same banks whose international loan departments are battling to sort out the massive rescheduling game now being played.

The age-old barter system has assumed new significance while a "tremendous" growth is taking place in counter-purchasing deals and a little-known loan-paper market called a forfeit, or future note.

For those countries where even that form of note is not accepted, barter and counter-purchasing are growing as trade financing tools.

A recent export of British chemicals to Indonesia was paid for by the proceeds from the European sale of Indonesian wood. All well and good, if a country has domestically produced commodities to trade.

Far Third World countries, where even their commodities, if any, have limited attractions, the counter-purchasing system has taken on new significance.

This involves a specialized company, Creditanstalt-AWT, a London-based subsidiary that deals with Britain's accepting houses and America's big banks like Chase Manhattan - acting as middle-men for the exchange of goods.

This system satisfies those exporters which cannot or do not want to find a market for goods offered in exchange. The goods do not have to be internally produced. They can be left over from another, entirely different transaction.

For instance, AWT sold Jamaican alumina to pay for the import of a large order of Land Rovers. AWT's job is to sell the goods and work out a price with the exporter.

"All the systems show tremendous growth," Mr Hudson added. "But they do not counter risks. If you know what you are doing, however, they can certainly be less risky than a straight bank loan."

Wayne Lintott



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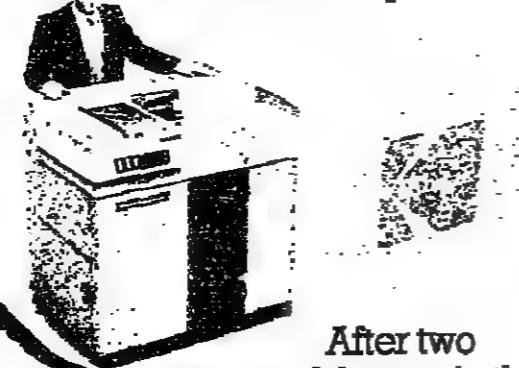
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TENNIS

Treading the road to Telford from Wimbledon

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Christopher Mottram and Colin Dowdeswell, who were born in the same Wimbledon nursing home in 1935 (Mottram on April 26, Dowdeswell 17 days later) have been seeded to contest the men's singles final of the inaugural Refuge Assurance British national championships to be played at Telford from October 3-6. Joanna Wade, the original Wade, have been seeded to contest the women's final.

Dowdeswell has now British ranking. He was brought up in what was then Rhodesia and in 1977 won both his singles when representing Rhodesia against Switzerland in the Davis Cup competition. The same year he emigrated to Switzerland and is still ranked third there, though for the past three years he has lived in Britain. Dowdeswell has a British passport and two months ago, the International Tennis Federation awarded him a Davis Cup wildcard to contest the women's final.

Dowdeswell's path to the Telford final is obstructed by, among others, two of Britain's present Davis Cup team, Andrew Jarrett and John Lloyd. In the recent United States championships, Lloyd beat three players more highly ranked than

The women's seedings suggest that in her last two matches Miss Durne, who advanced to the semi-final round of the French and US championships, will have to beat her two immediate predecessors as British number one, Joanna Wade and Miss Wade. The last eight are expected to be: Miss Durne v Rina King or Sara Gomes; Miss Barker v Amanda Brown or Julie Salmon; Shellei Walpole or Cathy Drury v Anne Hobbs; and Annabel Croft or Kate Brasher v Miss Wade.

The field for this intriguing new tournament includes all Britain's leading players, of both sexes. The sponsors have provided a prize fund of £83,000. The singles champion will each receive £7,500.

GOLF

Chance for vengeance

Sandy Lyle who has been beaten twice in finals in the past three years, gets a chance or revenge in the £150,000 World Match-play championship to be played by Saturday at Wentworth from October 6 to 9. Lyle, who heard of his participation for the third time only last week, will face the Australian, Greg Norman, who beat him to the 1980 title.

Last year Lyle lost at the 37th to Severiano Ballesteros of Spain who is aiming to become the first man to win the event three years in succession. Ballesteros is drawn against Arnold Palmer, who was the first event in 1964.

In the last 20-year match play event, the only ones left hope to assemble all 12 previous champions; 11 of them accepted but Jack Nicklaus, who captains the America's Ryder Cup team, the following week has declined. The other British challenger, Nick Faldo, the winner of five tournaments this season and the clear leader of the

first round (over 10 holes); 5 Ballesteros (open V A Palmer (USA); T. Wadsworth (GBR); T. Nijhuis (NED); V C Perle (USA); 10th PAP V. D. Palmer (USA); 11th V. C. D. Palmer (GBR); 12th H. Irvin (USA); 13th G. Graham (AUS); N. Faldo (GBR); V. G. March (AUS). All other will be over 96 More. golf page 25

Award for Decker

The American middle distance runner, Mary Decker was named amateur Sportswoman of the Year and Martina Navratilova, the Wimbledon tennis champion, was named Professional Sportswoman of the Year by the Women's Sports Foundation in New York.

RACKETS

Penn to defend his world title against an irrepressible rival

By William Stephens

John Penn, aged 30, who defeated William Surtees in December 1981 to win the world racket championship, has agreed to defend his title for the first time by accepting a challenge from his irrepressible rival, William Boone, aged 33, who was the challenger against Surtees in 1979 - losing 5-0.

Penn is under no obligation - having retained his position of dominance in winning the crucial championships last season, with the exception of the United States Amateur Singles and also the Celestion Invitation Singles. However, Boone had come tantalisingly close to challenging last year by losing out in two big occasions - at the Chicago Invitation Singles in December, when he led 13-10, in the fifth game but lost 18-15; and, the British Amateur Championship in January - when he lost 17-15 in the fifth, having also led in the set to three. In their most recent encounter, the British Open, in April, Penn recorded a decisive victory 4-1. He has now won five British Open championships against Boone's one, and four Amateur to Boone's one.

Penn's first leg against Surtees at the New York Racquet and Tennis Club, was the greatest exhibition of sustained classical racquets.

In view of the recent spectacular battles between Penn and Boone - currently the two outstanding players in the world - and Boone's fighting quality of giving his all in countless competitiveness, it is excellent for Rackets in Britain to have a challenge between United Kingdom-based players for the first time since 1959. Country Atkins beat Jim Dear 6-5 at Queen's before moving to Chicago, and retaining the championship until 1972, by which time Surtees, another Old Ruebelian, was already a Chicago resident. Over the ensuing years, Howard Angus played one leg there, both when challenging Surtees and defending against him.

With the world championship decided over two legs - each the best of five sets - the host has elected out of consideration for the benefit of the game in North America, to play the first leg at the Montreal Racquet Club on Saturday, January 7, 1984, with the second leg at the Queen's Club, London, on the following Saturday, January 14.

The players who made the greatest advance last season, largely forcing their way into both British and semi-final positions, and in doubles, were Mark and Paul Nicholls (Public Schools champions for Malvern, in 1974), and other players who made considerable impact were Etonians, Thomas Bradenell and David Ruck-Keece, Marlburians, Christopher Worlidge and Matthew Mockridge, and Cliftonian Julian Penney, the fine double-handed 1980 and 1981 H K Fosters' champion. For Penn, James Male, has just returned from a year sports scholarship in the United States to compete in the new season.

Among the professionals, the very high quality of play continues at the top, with Norwood Cripps (aged 39) still maintaining his supremacy - but with one of the best Open prospects in many years, Shannon Hazel (Wellington), potentially a brilliant player providing he concentrates on Rackets, and not squash.

Sponsorship by Celestion Loudspeakers is to continue, together with their joint scheme with the governing body, the Tennis and Rackets Association, to subsidize the age of 25, costs for players of all standards who join clubs to keep up the game after leaving school.

The base of the game is being broadened by the growth at schools of "evening town clubs", particu-



Concentration: John Penn perfectly poised for a backhand.

Mackenzie, E F Longrigg, S Milford, J H Pawle, C T M Pugh, R Thompson and A H E Webb.

They will be heartened to know of the planned reopening of the Cheltenham College court - opposite the Chapel and overlooking the cricket ground which Gloucestershire use. Since the Second World War the court has been used as a workshop, and its restoration is being helped very significantly financially by the Tennis and Rackets Association, who will also be supporting the cost of a professional to teach the boys.

Cheltenham's best Rackets player

was the great cricketer, K S Deepshinghi, who played for the college from 1921 to 1923 before becoming first string for Cambridge (who had lost in the University match to D S Milford). There is now a Deepshinghi scholarship at Cheltenham College.

MAIN FIXTURES: October 4-8: Masters' (over 40) at Queen's; October 21-22: Manchester Gold Cup; November 1-12: Nottingham Gold Cup; November 1-12: Professional and doubles (over 35) at Queen's; November 2-4: Nottingham Open; November 3-4: Nottingham Open; November 17-24: Public Schools' (over 16) at Queen's; December 30-January 1: Celestion Invitational; January 5-7: Celestion Invitational; January 8-22: Amateur singles (Queen's); February 6-12: Amateur doubles (Queen's); February 6-12: Professional singles and doubles (over 35) at Queen's; February 24-26: Seacourt Open competition (Hayling Island); March 2-4: Dartmouth Doubles Cup (Dartmouth); March 10-11: Open at Queen's; March 13-14: Royal Liverpool; G W Humphreys Trophy; G W Tomlinson Trophy; April 3-7: Public Schools' (Queen's); April 10-14: Celestion Invitational (Queen's); April 15-19: Sutton Trophy (over 35); April 22-26: Sutton Trophy (over 40); April 29-May 4: Sandhurst tournament (final).

Bicycle polo, a sport that is in the middle of rescuing itself

A touch of Irish in a game so eccentrically English

Bicycle polo was once an Olympic sport, so let us have no unseemly mockery of the nine teams who recently trekked across England to thrash, and pedal for the George Brake Trophy at Purley Way playing fields. The twinkled-kneed brotherhood may have looked a trifle incongruous as, knees going like beset pistons, they flung themselves into the fray on a pitch surrounded by football fields and Sunday afternoon George Bests, but they were playing a real sport with honoured traditions.

The rain was coming down in great sheets while players between games in this round robin tournament stood around in anoraks and bedewed spectacles, fiddling with bikes, talking bicycle polo shop or pedalling about practicing telling passes. "Not me," said The Malettes Cat. "I don't care. I play the game."

But unlike the equine game, a game in which running a team costs as much as running an ocean-going yacht, I am told, bicycle polo is cheap. A polo bike will cost a mere £89.

The sport is in the middle of rescuing itself from an all-time low, with membership of the Bicycle Polo Association (BPA) hitting unplumb depths three years ago, but at Purley, Chelsea Pedlars turned up a newly registered outfit with an impressive 42 playing members. They had been going for three years outside the fold, but now they were contesting the George Brake Trophy for the first time, with public school accents and one player wearing for reasons best known to himself, a pair of real jodhpurs.

"Basically it all started as a hare-brained scheme dreamt up in a pub," explained the Chelsea captain, Nick Mayhew-Sanders. Joe Garnett, a player with a silken kerchief about his head, added: "We play because it really is great. We use smaller mallet heads than most of the players here, and the ball rises something wicked. That tends to keep the adrenaline flowing." They play twice a week, more often than most of the more experienced players, and have a pitch in Hyde Park.

Technique

But experience and technique count in this game, a strange sport that demands strange skills. "I'm a newcomer," said Clem Cowling, a slip of a youth somewhere in his 60s. "I didn't start playing until 1947." He was playing at back for Crystal Palace, much to his surprise: he was co-opted into the side after he had turned up to watch. They were doing rather well, as it happened. "Of course, in the old days Palace were the old enemy," he said. "I used to be with Croydon Aces you see."

This is, indeed, a long-established sport. In fact, it is probably the only sport to have been invented twice. Perhaps not altogether surprisingly, it was invented by an Irishman first time around: Richard Mecredy was a racing cyclist too old for the road and so, like The Malettes Cat in the Kipling story, he started to play the game, pausing only to invent it. That was 1891, and to this day, Ireland are the

world's only Olympic gold medal winners in the sport of bicycle polo. That was in 1908, when the Olympic Games were held in Shepherd's Bush.

But Cyril Scott was unaware of these fascinating facts, and so he invented the game again, and founded the BPA in 1930. The game spread rapidly, through many cycling clubs packed with enthusiastic racers happy to find a winter way of keeping fit. "I started in 1933," said Fred Bull, while Chelsea A were in the process of getting thumped by the accuracy and skill of Solihull. "I played for Wandsworth in the London League days, after the war, when we used to play in greyhound stadiums, and get crowds of 2,000. George Brake was the man behind it, of course. He tried to organize the sport on a semi-professional basis, but the crowds were never quite big enough. I don't play any more though, not since I broke my wrist falling off a mountain."

Acceleration

The BPA secretary, Tony Knight, remembers playing his first game on an errant boy's bike with a basket on the front, and a proper polo bike is a specialist machine, with a square frame, a curved handlebar and straight front forks which make the running circle as small as possible; no brakes, a fixed wheel, and an extremely low gear that makes for rapid acceleration, and means that travel at any speed is an irresistibly cosmic sight. The bikes also have tiny handlebars "so you don't rupture yourself in a sudden turn," Mr Knight explained kindly. You buy your mallet from Salter, who also make the mallets you use when you play bicycle polo on horseback.

Or elephant back? The Mounted Sports Association of India, whose members play polo on horses and elephants, recently toured England: "all maharajahs and princes. They beat us 10-5," said Mr Knight. Chelsea Pedlars also played them, and like Mr Knight's boys, were invited to India to play. Clegg said they might actually make it in February.

And think not that bicycle polo men are cossies. It is a game that can be exuberantly physical, and a passing movement can leave a swathe of bikes, mallets and limping players in its wake. "I like the game because it's quick, with plenty of aggression and skill," said Robert Walker, the captain of Solihull and England. In the last international, two years back, Scotland beat England 5-3.

Clem Cowling helped the old enemy, Crystal Palace, to this place, while Mr Knight lifted his team, Solent B, into fourth. The final was played between Bex and Solihull, and Walker, lining up for the Solihull side with his sons Mark and Adam, won 4-2 after extra time. It is true that Purley Way playing fields are a long way from the Olympic Games, but there will always be an England to long as bicycle polo is played as a serious sport.

Simon Barnes



Like a circus trick cyclist, this cocooned player waits for the start (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Final first-class averages for the 1983 cricket season

Imran stirs memories of the days of Grace

By Marcus Williams

In 1982 Imran Khan's performances for Pakistan against England established him among the game's leading all-rounders and suggested that the team he also captained so inspirationally would challenge strongly for the Prudential World Cup in 1983. In the event a stress fracture of the shin, brought on by the continual strain of fast bowling, kept him out of the attack and Pakistan did not progress beyond the semi-final round.

After the World Cup Imran was free to apply his talents to batting for Sussex, which he did with sufficient success to finish sixth in the first-class averages. As his injury healed, he was able to resume bowling in the closing weeks of the season, albeit in short spells and at reduced speed, but well enough - and thanks largely to his six wickets for six runs against Warwickshire - to take top place in the bowling list by a wide margin and in so doing to delight collectors of cricket's more esoteric records.

Although several bowlers making only occasional appearances have recorded lower averages than Imran's 7.16 runs per wicket, his figure is the best to meet the qualification of 10 wickets in 10 innings since Alles Hill,

of Yorkshire and England, took 29 wickets at 7.03 apiece, and Richard Williams, also on the fringe, was 20th. The latter's all-round figures - 1,305 runs (average 43.50) and 27 wickets (22.04) - compare more favourably with Mark's 530 (22.68) and 53 (32.63).

Williams was one of the bowlers to take a hundred wickets when four last achieved the feat together in 1978 - the others were Lever and Underwood, as now, and Selvey - and it highlights the present state of affairs that one of the bowlers who toured Australia that winter had not reached the top 14 of the averages.

This year's batting list, headed for the first time by Vivian Richards, is more encouraging for England, particularly in bowling. Of the five following Imran four are banned from Test cricket for touring South Africa and the other, Marshall, plays for West Indies. Of the four bowlers to take a hundred wickets three are banned and although the fourth, Gifford, is going on England's winter tour, it is only as assistant manager.

The records of the bowlers chosen for the tour make depressing reading, with Dilley (19th) the highest placed. He is followed by Foster (29th), Cook (38th), Willis (41st), Cowans (66th and a mere 30 wickets), Marks (41st), Cowans (66th and only 22 wickets). By contrast Edmonds, who was not selected, finished 15th.

Bowling

Qualification: 10 wickets in 10 innings.

Over Runs Mins Runs Wkts Ave.

Imran Khan 482 2 777 94 38 28 41* 15.81* P. Daniels 841 322 1788 92 30.52

R. Williams 21 0 413 80 29 20 16.78 P. Cooper 576 164 1700 97 37 22.24

T. Gifford 447 2 447 81 16.78 D. J. Achter 477 1 140 1222 43 26.24

J. E. Grimes 555 2 190 1484 50 26.48

M. L. Marshall 556 2 190 1484 50 26.48

J. D. Indurain 483 3 104 1238 47 22.12

R. J. Lever 17 0 211 44 15.07 P. M. Ellison 584 157 1491 51 21.23

W. J. Morris 17 0 202 44 15.07 C. M. Edmonds 584 157 1491 51 21.23

N. J. M. Mather 584 157 1491 51 21.23

P. H. Wilson 11 0 208 44 15.07 G. V. Palmer 203 2 157 1491 51 21.23

A. J. P. Ferreira 584 157 1491 51 21.23

G. F. Gifford 584 157 1491 51 21.23

J. N. Shepherd 780 1 208 2047 51 20.53

W. Hogg 384 4 73 1186 52 20.51

G. Williams 525 2 117 1600 53 20.78

G. L. Williams 525 2 117 1600 53 20.78

P. W. Lester 483 5 169 1591 52

La crème de la crème

also on page 28

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GORDON YATES VENTURE CAPITAL

Directors' Secretary £7,500 + bonus
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A lot to ask? But then, we've quite a lot to offer.

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You will mainly be involved in providing secretarial support to our Programming Services Manager, and administrative assistance to the running of the department. We'd like to see you progressing to a senior level, and you should have an interest in working in a computer environment.

Personal Secretary

You will be asked in for day-to-day running of a busy divisional personnel office where the emphasis is on good administration. Ideally, you will be A level standard, and previous personnel experience would be useful.

We're prepared to hear about salaries, which should attract good-calibre people. You will also receive an excellent benefits package which includes a fully-paid season ticket scheme and subsidised meals.

Interested? Then contact me in writing and let me know which job you prefer. Jen Ross, Personnel Officer, Technical Services Division, The Stock Exchange, Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1HP

"Course I'm all right for another 18 holes, old man. Our temporaries run the office by themselves now we're getting them from..."

Senior
Secretaries

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£7900

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- wishes to work in a busy personnel department
- enjoys meeting a wide variety of people
- wants to progressively handle greater responsibilities within the field of personnel work

Working conditions are first-class. There is an attractive range of fringe benefits and prospects for promotion are excellent. The successful applicant will:

- be aged 20-28
- be educated to 'O' level standard
- have ability to remain cheerful and calm under pressure
- be able to demonstrate a track record of hard work and efficiency
- have shorthand and audio typing skills of 120/60

If you are interested in applying for this position, please telephone 01-838 1200 ext. 3114 for an application form.

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You will work with the partner whose responsibilities include marketing a major professional organisation. You must be capable of taking a leading role and contributing to our marketing plan.

Age is unimportant, but you must be suitably educated, imaginative, energetic, a good organiser and administrator. Able to communicate at all levels and secretarial skills would be an advantage.

Please reply with full cv. in the first instance quoting reference 81 to Kevin Turner, Royds Personnel Services, Royds House, Mandeville Place, London W1.

RPS

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Churchill Clinic

10 Lombard Road, London SE1. The General Manager and Matron of this busy private hospital require a high calibre

SECRETARY

to take charge of their office. The hospital is conveniently situated in Lambeth Road, SE1, opposite the Imperial War Museum. Access by public transport is excellent, Lambeth North (Bakerloo line) is 5-6 minutes walk away and Waterloo 1/2 mile. In addition to an attractive salary the benefits include private health insurance and non-contributory pension scheme.

For a job description and application form please telephone Mrs Kate Cuthbert on 018 5633 Ext. 304.

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£10,000

30% secretarial and 70% administrative this is your chance to get involved in a fast growing company.

Very good PA/secretarial experience required.

Excellent communication skills and a desire to work with a dynamic and professional team.

The position requires someone who can combine the skills of a first class administrator with the ability to deal personally with members.

Please address letter of application giving full details of experience and qualifications to: Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants

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Required for young and energetic Managing Director of small, fast-moving company. Must be able to balance and cope with a heavy workload and has varied personal interests.

4 weeks holiday and usual benefits, salary negotiable, reviewed regularly to reflect achievement and involvement.

Please write with CV to Veronica Rogers-Coleman at 55, Park Lane, London W1.

P.A./EXEC SECRETARY

Central London c£9,000

You will report to the General Manager and

Kinnock backs a national minimum wage

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Higher social security benefits, a national minimum wage, and a fair tax system would all be necessary if poverty were to be tackled decisively, Mr Neil Kinnock, the foremost candidate for the Labour Party leadership, said in Birmingham yesterday.

He told a conference on low pay that 7.5 million people in Britain were in poverty, as measured by popular standards of decency, in that they lacked "the basic necessities the rest of us take for granted."

Mr Kinnock said that low wages were a significant direct and indirect cause of poverty. The Government and the Social Democrats believed that it should be dealt with through providing social security to the low-paid, but that only deepened the poverty trap while providing huge subsidies to low-wage firms.

That was why the Labour Party and the Trades Union Congress had held detailed discussions on how to introduce a national minimum wage, for which there was considerable public support.

"Of course, we need to be careful in the way that such a minimum wage is introduced," Mr Kinnock said. "Immediate withdrawal so to the low-wage subsidy, on which many firms have relied, could cause serious difficulty, but a phased introduction would give them time to adapt."

Seven million people and their families stood to gain directly, while the rest would benefit from the stimulus to economic activity and the creation of jobs.

Saying that the country needed a fairer and more progressive tax system, Mr Kinnock added that capital transfer tax and capital gains tax has been virtually abolished by the present Government, with income tax payers

especially the low-paid, left to pick up the bill.

A more effective system of capital taxation, including an annual wealth tax, was essential to ensure that the wealthy made their proper contribution to revenue and to reduce the present gross inequalities in wealth.

Mr Kinnock said his case was based not on the politics of envy but on the economics of efficiency. The absence of effective wealth taxation encouraged the inefficient use of resources in the production of prestige goods and services, often tax-deductible, for the very rich.

Income tax, with its elaborate array of reliefs providing greatest benefits to the to the best-off, also needed reforming, he said.

Mr Roy Hattersley, favourite for the deputy leadership of the party, also spoke last night in Birmingham and attacked Dr David Owen's speech to the Social Democratic council in Salford two weeks ago.

Dr Owen did not understand the implication of his "half thought out" economic policy, Mr Hattersley said. His offer of "toughness and tenderness" would mean tenderness to the middle-income groups and toughness towards the lowest paid.

Union hope for Meacher

Mr Michael Meacher's campaign to win the Labour deputy leadership spluttered back into life last night as his supporters circulated reports that he had won the support of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, which has a block vote of 147,000 (Paul Routledge writes).

Gibraltar ship concern

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Ageing and dangerous ships are being transferred in increasing numbers to the newly emerging flag of convenience of Gibraltar, according to the National Union of Seamen (NUS).

The union's leaders decided last week to ignore attempts by Gibraltar's ship owners to negotiate an exclusive recognition deal with the NUS, and will decide how to fight the flag at the International Transport Workers' Federation congress in Madrid in October.

The union is concerned that when British ships transfer to the Gibraltar flag the jobs on board

are taken by foreign citizens, who are paid well below union rates and work in poor conditions.

The Gibraltarian flag – an

emerging rival to the Panamanian and Liberian flags – has come into prominence over the past few years and now 40 vessels are registered there, many of them formerly listed in Britain. Others are from Scandinavia.

Mr Jim Slater, general secretary of the union, said that many of the vessels were "just buckets" and unable to continue to reach the standards demanded by the British registry and by other flags.



Winners and losers: A rueful Mr Dennis Conner, the American helmsman (left); all-night revellers shouting for joy at the Royal Perth Yacht Club; and Australia II's skipper, Mr John Bertrand, with his wife, Roz.

Reagan sends his congratulations

By Rupert Morris

An Australian victory celebrations continued yesterday in Newport, Perth, and Earl's Court, President Reagan sent a message of congratulations to Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, and Peter de Savary, the British millionaire, who was keen to have another crack at the America's Cup.

Mr Reagan's message said: "If the American's Cup had to leave the United States, I am delighted that its home will be Australia – at least until the next race. All Australians must be justifiably proud of the extraordinary team effort, skill, and sportsmanship that brought off this magnificent victory."

Although sportsmanship sometimes seemed secondary during this ceaselessly controversial competition, the race in which the United States surrendered its 132-year-old grip on the Cup caught the public imagination all over the world in an unprecedented way.

With news from Newport that the Australians are likely to defend their trophy in Perth in 1988, the talk in British yachting circles will soon be about who will challenge for Britain. At the moment, everyone is waiting for the Royal Perth Club to declare its intentions.

Yacht racing rules prohibit advertising on boats, or on competitors' clothing.

Mr John Darie, Secretary-

General of the Royal Yachting Association, said yesterday: "If the Australians do invite a challenge, then it is likely that someone in Britain will have a go."

Under the present America's Cup rules, which the Royal Perth Yacht Club may choose to vary, it is up to individual yacht clubs to enter. If there is more than one British entrant, they will be expected to fight it out in eliminating heats in Perth.

Mr de Savary, whose syndicate spent £5m entering the yacht Victory via the Royal Burgham Yacht Club, said yesterday on BBC Radio 2: "We feel it is a great event and we think we ought to have another go."

He did not, however, give any indication that he was willing to put up the money himself, and there are doubts as to whether he would be able to raise the necessary sponsorship.

The unprecedented media interest and television coverage might appear to offer huge sponsorship opportunities, but the ability of Perth, with its relatively small population, to mount a merchandising operation on the scale usually seen in the United States is questionable.

Yacht racing rules prohibit advertising on boats, or on competitors' clothing.

"Any boozers who sacks anyone today for not turning up to work in a bar," Mr Hawke said. "I

Wave of euphoria sweeps Australia

From Douglas Atkin, Melbourne

An extraordinary and highly emotional wave of patriotism swept Australia yesterday from the moment Australia II crossed the line in victory.

The feeling had been building up for weeks, but until the moment of victory no one had dared to believe in it. Before the first race, most Australians were showing only a mild interest in the event, having been dragged through many humiliating defeats in the past two decades.

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Victory via the Royal Burgham Yacht Club, said yesterday on BBC Radio 2: "We feel it is a great event and we think we ought to have another go."

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Yacht racing rules prohibit

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"Any boozers who sacks anyone

today for not turning up to work

in a bar," Mr Hawke said. "I

don't think I have had a greater

moment of pride."

The Royal Perth Yacht Club is

the home base for the Australia

II challenge. The scene there was

one of delirium.

The club manager, Mr Brian

Geen, ran through the club at

the moment of victory carrying a

poster showing a kangaroo

beating up an eagle. Moments

before, as Australia II was

making its comeback in the final

stages, impeccably dressed

women knelt on the floor and

prayed.

But by the end of the sixth

race, the entire country seemed to

have rediscovered a fervent

nationalism not felt since the

glittering 1950s when Australian

athletes such as Herb Elliott and

John Landy, swimmers such as

John Kourakis, and Dawn Fraser,

and tennis players such as Frank

Segevman and Rod Laver, all

conquered the world.

But by 5.21 am yesterday, the huge

all-night revels developed into

hysteria when Australia II took

the honours. Mr Bob Hawke, the

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